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## THE ARMY.

ULTISES S. GRANT,  
President and Commander-in-Chief

### WAR DEPARTMENT.

W. W. Belknap, Secretary of War.

Brigadier-General E. D. Townsend, Adjutant-General.

G. O. No. 15, WASHINGTON, March 3, 1875.

The Secretary of War with regret announces to the Army the death of Brigadier-General Lorenzo Thomas, Brevet Major-General, U. S. Army, on the retired list, and late Adjutant-General. He died at his residence in this city the 2d instant.

But few officers have served so actively and continuously through so long a period as General Thomas. Energetic of character and vigorous of constitution, he was enabled to be in the field throughout much of both the Florida and Mexican wars. His training as Adjutant of the Fourth Infantry developed his fitness for duties in the Staff, which he performed zealously and efficiently, first in the Quartermaster's and then in the Adjutant-General's Department. In the latter Department, at its first organization, he was commissioned Major and Assistant Adjutant-General, July 7, 1838. In the war with Mexico he was Adjutant-General and Chief of Staff to Major-General Butler, both while commander of a Division of Volunteers and commander of the Army. His experience and systematic administrative powers were conspicuous in the final movements and the withdrawal of the Army in Mexico.

Early in the war of the Rebellion he became Adjutant-General of the Army by succession, and was afterward specially assigned to the duty of organizing Volunteer troops, particularly the colored regiments. He was brevetted Major-General 13th March, 1865. Having passed beyond the age of 63 years, he was placed on the retired list of the Army in February, 1869.

General Thomas was a man of generous and kindly disposition, who in his day has done much good in the communities where he lived.

In respect to his memory the officers of the Adjutant-General's Department will wear the usual badge of mourning for thirty days.

G. O. No. 17, WASHINGTON, March 9, 1875.

Under authority of the act of March 3, 1875, section 1, entitled "An act for the relief of General Samuel W. Crawford, and to fix the rank and pay of retired officers of the Army," the President of the United States directs that the retirement, as promulgated in Par. 2, S. O. No. 38, from this office, dated February 19, 1873, be amended so as to place General Crawford on the retired list of the Army with the rank of Brigadier-General, to date from February 19, 1873, with pay of that grade from date of the act.

Casualties among the Commissioned Officers of the U. S. Army reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, March 6, 1875.

Brigadier-General Lorenzo Thomas, U. S. Army (Retired)—Died March 2, 1875, at Washington, D. C. Captain Henry A. Du Pont, Fifth Artillery—Resigned March 1, 1875.

First Lieutenant Dominic Lynch, Jr., Fourth Cavalry—Died February 21, 1875, at Fort Clark, Texas.

Changes of Stations of Troops reported to the Adjutant-General's Office during the week ending Saturday, March 6, 1875.

Company D, Fourth Cavalry, from Fort Richardson, Texas, to Fort Sill, Ind. T.

Company B, Tenth Cavalry, from Fort Sill, Ind. T., to Fort Griffin, Texas.

Companies C and K, Tenth Cavalry, from Fort Sill, Ind. T., to Fort McKavett, Texas.

Companies D, F, and G, Tenth Cavalry, from Fort Griffin, Texas, to Fort Concho, Texas.

Company E, Tenth Cavalry, from Fort Richardson, Texas, to Fort Griffin, Texas.

Company H, Tenth Cavalry, from Fort Sill, Ind. T., to Fort Davis, Texas.

Companies I and L, Tenth Cavalry, from Fort Richardson, Texas, to Fort Concho, Texas.

Company M, Tenth Cavalry, from Fort Sill, Ind. T., to Fort Stockton, Texas.

Company I, Eleventh Infantry, from Fort Richardson, Texas, to Fort Sill, Ind. T.

Company C, Twenty-fifth Infantry, from Fort Sill, Ind. T., to Fort Stockton, Texas.

Company I, Twenty-fifth Infantry, from Fort Sill, Ind. T., to Fort Davis, Texas.

Company K, Twenty-fifth Infantry, from Fort Stockton, Texas, to Fort Davis, Texas.

### ABSTRACT OF SPECIAL ORDERS.

Issued from the War Department, Adjutant-General's Office, for the week ending March 9, 1875.

[No Special Orders were issued from the Adjutant-General's Office on the following dates: Wednesday, March 3, 1875, and Saturday, March 6, 1875].

Thursday, March 4.

Discharged.—Privates Charles A. Gailey, E, Sixth Cavalry, now with his command; Edward Schermerhorn, Signal Service, now on detached service near Denison, Texas; William H. Clarke, G, Eighth Infantry; Edwin C. Brooks, D, Eighth Infantry; Ezekiel Provolt, I, Second Cavalry, now with his command.

Major James M. Robertson, Second Artillery, is hereby transferred to the Third Artillery, to date from February 1, 1875.

Leave of absence for six months is granted First Lieutenant Daniel Robinson, Seventh Infantry (Fort Shaw, M. T.)

Private Henry Johnson, General Service U. S. Army, now supposed to be at Newport Barracks, Ky., is assigned to Company E, Sixteenth Infantry, and will be forwarded to that company at Lancaster, Ky., at the first favorable opportunity.

Revoked.—Transfer of Private William H. Clarke, G, Eighth Infantry, to B, Thirteenth Infantry.

Friday, March 5.

The expense incurred in the enlistment of James Quinn, a rejected recruit of the General Service U. S. Army, will be stopped from the pay of First Lieutenant J. F. Munson, Sixth Infantry, by whom he was enlisted.

Discharged.—Private Irvin E. Scott, General Service U. S. Army, with the Signal Service Detachment.

Transportation to Soldiers' Home.—Furnished Michael Finn, formerly private, B, Ninth Infantry.

Hospital Steward William Egle, U. S. Army (late private, A, First Cavalry), will proceed to Prescott, A. T., and report in person to the Commanding General Department of Arizona for assignment to duty.

By direction of the President, Major James R. Mears, Paymaster, U. S. Army, having served faithfully until he is over 62 years of age, is retired from active service under the provisions of section 12 of the act of Congress approved July 17, 1862, to date from March 3, 1875.

A Board of Examination having found Major Jacob E. Burbank, Paymaster, U. S. Army, incapacitated for active service, the President directs, in accordance with the finding and recommendation of the Board, that his name be placed upon the list of retired officers of that class in which the incapacity results from long and faithful service, from wounds or injury received in the line of duty, from sickness or exposure therein, or from any other incident of service, in conformity with sections 16 and 17 of the act of August 3, 1861, to date from March 3, 1875.

Monday, March 8.

To complete his record, Lieutenant-Colonel Egbert B. Brown, Seventh Missouri Volunteers, is mustered out and honorably discharged from the military service of the United States to date May 9, 1862, to enable him to accept an appointment as Brigadier-General Missouri State Militia.

Discharged.—Private George H. Morgan, C, First Cavalry, now with his command.

On the recommendation of the Surgeon-General, Assistant Surgeon Curtis E. Munn will report in person to the President of the Army Medical Board in session in New York City, for examination for promotion, and, upon the completion of his examination, will report to his proper station.

Transportation to Soldiers' Home.—Furnished James Ryan, formerly private, General Service U. S. Army, from Williamsburg, N. Y.; William Rapp, formerly hospital steward, U. S. Army, from St. Paul, Minn.

Tuesday, March 9.

Commissary Sergeant Horace Butts, U. S. Army, is relieved from duty at David's Island, N. Y. H., and will proceed without delay to Jackson Barracks, New Orleans, La., and report to the commanding officer of that post for duty.

Discharged.—Corporal Thomas Barker, I, Sixteenth Infantry, now with his command; Private Daniel B. Pettibone, E, Second Battalion Eighteenth Infantry.

Revoked.—Transfer of Private Peter Quinn, F, Fourth Infantry, to D, Eighth Infantry; Private Daniel B. Pettibone, E, Second Battalion Eighteenth Infantry.

By direction of the President, First Lieutenant Abner H. Merrill, First Artillery, is relieved from duty as Professor of Military Science and Tactics at the Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst, Mass., to take effect March 11, 1875, and will join his company.

By direction of the President, and in accordance with section 26 of the act of July 28, 1866, First Lieutenant C. A. L. Totten, Fourth Artillery, is detailed as Professor of Military Science and Tactics at the Massachusetts Agricultural College, Amherst, Mass., to take effect March 11, 1875. He will be relieved from his present duties at the Artillery School and proceed to Amherst accordingly.

The following named officers, having performed the duties required of them by Pars. 11 and 12, S. O. No. 31, February 23, 1875, from this office, will return to their respective stations: Majors Robert Macfeely, Thomas J. Haines, Commissary of Subsistence.

Transferred.—Corporal John Langer, B, Twenty-first Infantry, to L, First Cavalry; Private Denis Lane, F, First Artillery, to Light Battery C, Third Artillery.

### GENERAL COURT-MARTIAL ORDERS.

G. C. M. No. 11, 12, and 13, Washington, February 12, 1875.—Relates to trials, etc., of enlisted men.

### HEADQUARTERS OF THE ARMY.

W. T. Sherman, General of the Army of the United States.

Colonel W. D. Whipple, Assistant Adjutant-General.

The leave of absence for seventy-five days, granted Colonel B. H. Grierson, Tenth Cavalry, by S. O. No. 3, Headquarters of the Army, 1875, is extended forty-five days. (S. O. No. 14, March 2.)

### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE MISSOURI.

Lieut.-Gen. P. H. Sheridan: Hdqrs New Orleans, La.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE GULF.

Colonel W. H. Emory: Headquarters, New Orleans, La.

Twenty-second Infantry.—The Secretary of War having designated this regiment, as one of those to be armed with the Springfield rifle, calibre 45, with trowel bayonets and intrenching tools, the company commanders of that regiment serving in this Department will at once make requisition through Department Headquarters for the new arms and trowel bayonet scabbards for the same, and for the necessary ammunition (not exceeding 250 rounds per arm). Officers receiving these arms will make regular reports, through Department Headquarters to the Chief of Ordnance, U. S. Army, as to the merits of the trowel bayonets, and intrenching tools.

Forage.—Owing to the reduced state of the appropriation for regular supplies, post commanders and officers of the Quartermaster's Department are enjoined to practice the utmost economy in the use of the supplies of fuel and forage. During the remainder of the current fiscal year only half forage will be issued to Cavalry horses when not on the march and to Quartermaster's animals when not at work.

Payment of Troops.—Major James R. Mears, Paymaster, U. S. Army, was February 27 ordered to proceed to Jackson and Vicksburg, Miss., Little Rock, Ark., Shreveport, Coushatta, Natchitoches, Colfax, Alexandria, and Baton Rouge, La., for the purpose of paying the troops on the muster of February 28, after which he will return to his station at New Orleans.

Medical Department.—A. A. Surgeon L. W. Cramp ton, U. S. Army, having reported at Department Headquarters, was March 1 assigned to duty at Jackson Barracks, La., and ordered to repair to that post and report to the commanding officer.

Fort Barrancas.—A General Court-martial was constituted to meet at Fort Barrancas, Fla., March 8. Assistant Surgeon Geo. M. Sternberg, U. S. Army, and the following officers of the First Artillery were detailed for the court: Major J. M. Brannan; Captains L. L. Langdon, A. M. Randol; First Lieutenant J. M. Ingalls; Second Lieutenant C. L. Best, Jr. Second Lieutenant Joseph S. Oyster, Judge-Advocate.

New Orleans.—A General Court-martial was constituted to meet in New Orleans, March 8. Captain Luke O'Reilly, Nineteenth Infantry, A. D. C., Judge-Advocate, and the following officers of the Thirteenth Infantry were detailed for the court: Lieutenant-Colonel Henry A. Morrow; Captains Robert Nugent, Emory W. Clift, Arthur MacArthur, Jr., James T. McGinniss, Wm. M. Waterbury, Philip H. Ellis.

Third Infantry.—The commanding officer of Jackson Barracks, La., was directed March 4 to send the recruits for Company B, Third Infantry, at his post, under charge of a non-commissioned officer, to the station of that company—Vicksburg, Miss.

First Artillery.—The Secretary of War having designated the First Regiment of Artillery, as one of those to be armed with the Springfield rifle, calibre 45, with trowel bayonets and intrenching tools, the company commanders of that Regiment serving in this Department was ordered March 4 to make requisition through Department Headquarters for the new arms and trowel bayonet scabbards, etc.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE MISSOURI.

Brigadier-General John Pope: Headquarters, Fort Leavenworth.

Fifteenth Infantry.—First Lieutenant S. R. Stafford, R. Q. M., was March 4 detailed as A. A. Q. M. and Acting Commissary of Subsistence at Fort Garland, C. T., to relieve Second Lieutenant Cyrus M. DeLany, Fifteenth Infantry, of these duties at that post. Lieutenant DeLany, upon being so relieved, will report to the commanding officer of his company for duty.

Fifth Infantry.—Captain Simon Snider and Second Lieutenant George P. Borden were March 4 detailed as members of the General Court-martial convened at Fort Leavenworth, Kas.

First Lieutenant R. McDonald, Fifth Infantry, was March 3 relieved from duty at Fort Riley, Kas., and ordered to report, without delay, to the commanding officer Cantonment on North Fork of Red River, Texas, for duty with his company. The commanding officer, Fort Riley, will designate one of the officers on duty at his post to relieve Lieutenant McDonald in his duties as A. A. Q. M. and Acting Commissary of Subsistence.

Medical Department.—A. A. Surgeon S. J. Allen, Jr., U. S. Army, was ordered March 4 to report, without delay, to the commanding officer Camp Supply, I. T., for assignment to duty at that post.

Hospital Steward H. T. Clarke, U. S. Army, was March 3 ordered to report to the commanding officer Fort Leavenworth, Kas., for assignment to duty in connection with the military prison at that place.

Sixth Cavalry.—Leave of absence for twenty days



was March 3 granted Captain A. R. Chaffee (Camp Supply, I. T.), to take effect on or about the 20th inst.

#### DEPARTMENT OF THE PLATTE.

*Brigadier-General E. O. C. Ord: Headquarters, Omaha, Neb.*

*Ninth Infantry.*—Upon the expiration of his leave of absence, or in advance thereof, Captain T. B. Burrows was February 23 ordered to report in person, for duty, to the commanding officer District of the Black Hills, at Fort Laramie.

Leave of absence for one month was February 24 granted First Lieutenant W. W. Rogers, Ninth Infantry.

The leave of absence granted Second Lieutenant C. M. Rockefeller, Ninth Infantry, was March 5 extended fifteen days.

*Medical Department.*—Leave of absence for twenty days was March 5 granted Assistant Surgeon R. M. O'Reilly, U. S. Army.

*Twenty-third Infantry.*—Upon the completion of the duties upon which they are now engaged, 2d Lieutenants Rufus P. Brown, Theodore E. True, Robert H. Young, John J. O'Brien, and Lewis Merriam, Fourth Infantry, and Second Lieutenants Edward B. Pratt, James B. Lockwood, and Andrew T. Miller, Twenty-third Infantry, was February 23 ordered to proceed, via Omaha, to join their respective stations, delaying at Omaha en route to make their written reports.

The commanding officer of each company of the Twenty-third Infantry was February 24 ordered to make requisition on the Chief of Ordnance for Springfield rifles, calibre 45, with trowel bayonets and trenching tools, and trowel bayonet scabbards, for 54 men per company, with necessary ammunition, not to exceed two hundred and fifty rounds per man.

The death at Fort Kearney, Neb., of Second Lieutenant A. T. Miller, Twenty-third Infantry, U. S. A., is announced. Lieutenant Miller died of gastric fever.

*Second Cavalry.*—Major James S. Brishin was ordered February 24 to proceed to Des Moines, Iowa, on public business.

In advance of proceeding to Emmet county, Iowa, Second Lieutenant John H. Coale, Second Cavalry, was March 5 ordered to proceed to Des Moines, Iowa, and return, on public business.

*Omaha Weather.*—The medical director having given his written certificate that the mean temperature at Omaha during the first twenty days of February, 1875, was less than 10 deg. Fahrenheit, the Depot Quartermaster was February 24 ordered to issue the one-half increase of fuel for February, 1875, authorized in such case.

*Third Cavalry.*—Leave of absence for one month, on surgeon's certificate of disability was February 24 granted Captain Guy V. Henry.

First Lieutenant John P. Walker, Third Cavalry, was February 24 relieved from duty as A. A. Q. M., and directed to report for duty to the commanding officer of Fort McPherson.

Lieutenant-Colonel Cuvier Grover, Third Cavalry, A. A. Inspector-General, was directed February 26 to proceed to make inspections at North Platte, Fort Hartsuff, Cheyenne Depot, Fort D. A. Russell, Fort Sanders, Ogden, Salt Lake City, and Camp Douglas.

*Fourth Infantry.*—Leave of absence for one month, on surgeon's certificate of disability, was February 24 granted First Lieutenant David I. Ezekiel.

*Fourteenth Infantry.*—First Lieutenant George W. Steele was February 24 directed to proceed to Ogden and relieve Captain E. D. Baker, A. A. Q. M., in his duties as Depot Quartermaster.

*Judge-Advocate.*—Major H. B. Burnham, Judge-Advocate, U. S. Army, was ordered March 1 to Fort McPherson via North Platte, on public business. Having performed this duty, to return to his station in Omaha.

*Payment of Troops.*—Major T. H. Stanton, Paymaster, was February 26 ordered to pay the troops at Fort D. A. Russell, Cheyenne Depot, Forts Laramie and Fetterman, W. T., and Camps Robinson and Sheridan, Neb. Major I. O. Dewey, Paymaster, to pay the troops at Camp Douglas, Forts Cameron, Bridger, and Hall, Idaho. Major C. M. Terrell, Paymaster, to pay the troops at Forts Fred. Steele and Sanders, in addition to his other payments.

#### DEPARTMENT OF TEXAS.

*Brigadier-Gen C. C. Anwar: Headquarters, San Antonio, Texas.*

*Medical Department.*—Previous orders directing A. A. Surgeon D. S. Smart, U. S. Army, to proceed to Fort Griffin, Texas, were February 22 revoked, and he will proceed to Fort Concho, Texas, without delay, there to await the arrival of Lieutenant-Colonel John P. Hatch, Fourth Cavalry, to accompany his command to Fort Sill, I. T.

Hospital Steward Thomas J. Hume, U. S. Army, upon being relieved by Private Charles W. Moister, U. S. Army, was February 20 ordered to proceed to Fort McKavett, Texas, for duty.

On the recommendation of the medical director of the Department, the contract of A. A. Surgeon R. Choate, U. S. Army, was February 20 annulled, at his own request, to take effect March 1, 1875.

*Tenth Infantry.*—First Lieutenant S. H. Lincoln was February 12 detailed as a member of General Court-martial, vice First Lieutenant James Pratt, Jr., Twenty-fifth Infantry, relieved.

*Twenty-fifth Infantry.*—First Lieutenant H. B. Quimby, R. Q. M., was February 13 detailed as an additional member of General Court-martial.

Company E, Twenty-fifth Infantry, was February 17 relieved from temporary duty at Fort Concho, Texas, and ordered under the command of Major Z. R. Biles, Twenty-fifth Infantry, to Fort Davis, Texas, its proper station. Company K, Twenty-fifth Infantry, on temporary duty at Fort Concho, Texas, was relieved and ordered to Fort Davis, Texas, under the command of same officer, reporting upon arrival to the

commanding officer of that post for duty. Major Bliss was ordered to assume command of the detachment now with the transportation under orders for Fort Concho, Texas. On arriving at that post, to assume command of the troops under orders for Fort Davis and conduct them to that post—after so doing, to proceed to his proper station (Fort Bliss). First Lieutenant Wallace Tear, Twenty-fifth Infantry, will report for duty to Major Bliss.

*Fourth Cavalry.*—First Lieutenant H. W. Lawton was ordered February 23 to proceed to Fort Griffin, Texas, on public business, taking with him the Quartermaster Sergeant of the Fourth Cavalry. First Lieutenant D. A. Irwin, Fourth Cavalry, to proceed to Fort Griffin, Texas, to meet Lieutenant Lawton, and upon completion of the business to return to Fort Concho, Texas.

First Lieutenant W. C. Miller, Fourth Cavalry, was February 23 relieved from the temporary command of detachment of Company G, Fourth Cavalry, and ordered to report without delay for duty with his company (D), Fourth Cavalry, now at Fort Griffin, Texas.

#### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE SOUTH.

*Major-General I. McDonnell: Headquarters, Louisville, Ky.*

##### DEPARTMENT OF THE SOUTH.

*Major-General I. McDonnell: Headquarters, Louisville, Kentucky.*

*Second Infantry.*—A General Court-martial was appointed to meet at Mobile Barracks, Mobile, Alabama, March 3. Assistant Surgeon E. B. Moseley, U. S. Army, and the following officers of this regiment were detailed for the court: Major D. P. Hancock; Captain A. W. Krontinger; First Lieutenant Thomas Drury; Second Lieutenants Sidney E. Clark, William J. Turner. First Lieutenant Samuel McKeever, Judge-Advocate.

#### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE ATLANTIC.

*Major-General W. S. Hancock: Headquarters, New York.*

*Officers Registered.*—The following officers were registered at Headquarters Military Division of the Atlantic, for the week ending March 9, 1875: Captain O. E. Michaels, Ordnance Department; Second Lieutenant James Brennan, Seventeenth Infantry; First Lieutenant B. K. Roberts, Fifth Artillery; Major T. J. Haines, Subsistence Department; Captain E. H. Leib, Fifth Cavalry; Lieutenant-Colonel E. A. Carr, Fifth Cavalry; First Lieutenant J. A. Yeckley, Twentieth Infantry.

*Second Artillery.*—Leave of absence for one month, with permission to apply for an extension of one month, was March 6 granted Second Lieutenant Henry A. Reed (Fort McHenry, Md.)

*Medical Department.*—The commanding officer Fort Hamilton, N. Y. H., was March 8 authorized to grant a furlough for six months to Hospital Steward Jeremiah Phelan, U. S. Army.

*Third Artillery.*—Second Lieutenant Charles Sellmer was March 8 ordered to proceed, without delay, to Boston, Mass., and relieve First Lieutenant Garland N. Whistler, of his duties at that station.

#### MILITARY DIVISION OF THE PACIFIC.

*Major-Gen. J. M. Schofield: Headquarters San Francisco, Cal.*

*Officers Registered.*—The following officers registered their names at Headquarters Military Division of the Pacific, during the week ending Tuesday, February 23, 1875: Majors Samuel Woods, Pay Department; John Green, First Cavalry.

*Fourth Artillery.*—Captain George B. Rodney, First Lieutenant William F. Stewart, and Second Lieutenant George H. Paddock, Fourth Artillery, and Sergeant Francis Ainger, Company C, Fourth Artillery, were February 23 directed to report to the commanding officer of the Department of the Columbia, March 9, as witnesses in civil suits pending before the United States District Court for Oregon, at Portland, Oregon.

##### DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA.

*Brigadier-General George Crook: Headquarters, Prescott.*

*Sixth Cavalry.*—Pursuant to instructions from the War Department, Second Lieutenant William H. Carter was February 8 assigned to temporary duty with the Fifth Cavalry, to report in person, without delay, for duty to the commanding officer Camp Verde, A. T.

*Pay Department.*—So much of telegraphic instructions from Department Headquarters, dated August 11 and 24, 1874, respectively, as directs Major D. Taylor, Paymaster, to take station at Prescott, A. T., was February 8 revoked. The following telegraphic instructions to Major David Taylor, Paymaster, were confirmed, viz: Instructions of October 20, 1874, to return from Prescott to Tucson, A. T.

*Fort Yuma.*—A General Court-martial was constituted to assemble at Fort Yuma, Cal., February 21. Detail for the court: Major C. H. Morgan, Fourth Artillery; Captains H. M. Lazelle, Eighth Infantry; William B. Hughes, Assistant Quartermaster; H. C. Egbert, Twelfth Infantry; A. D. Wilson, Assistant Surgeon; Second Lieutenants P. H. Ray, Eighth Infantry; W. S. Schuyler, Fifth Cavalry. First Lieutenant C. A. Earnest, Eighth Infantry, Judge-Advocate.

*Eighth Infantry.*—First Lieutenant Daniel T. Wells was February 13 relieved from duty at Camp McDowell, A. T., and directed to report in person without delay, to the commanding officer Fort Yuma, Cal., for duty, pending the arrival of official notification of his promotion.

*Fort Whipple.*—The General Court-martial convened at Fort Whipple, A. T., of which Lieutenant-Colonel J. D. Wilkins, Eighth Infantry, is president, was February 13 dissolved.

*Camp Bowie.*—The General Court-martial convened

at Camp Bowie, A. T., and of which Major W. B. Royall, Fifth Cavalry, is president, was February 13 dissolved.

#### CONFIRMATIONS BY THE SENATE.

The telegraph reports the following confirmations which we publish without waiting for the Official list, which we shall give another week:

*Adjutant-General's Department.*—Lieutenant-Colonel James B. Fry, to be Assistant Adjutant-General with the rank of Colonel.

Majors Wm. D. Whipple and Chauncey McKeever, to be Assistant Adjutant-General with the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel.

These three promotions were confirmed by the Senate, with the understanding that the rank is to be determined by date of appointment, and not the date of the vacancy or promotion.

Captain Samuel N. Benjamin, Second Artillery, to be Assistant Adjutant-General with the rank of Major.

*Pay Department.*—Albert S. Towar, Michigan, to be Paymaster with the rank of Major.

The following appointments of Paymasters with the rank of Major have been made, but their confirmation is not yet announced: Captain Frank M. Cox, Twenty-fifth Infantry; Captain Alfred E. Bates, Second Cavalry; Captain John P. Willard, Fifteenth Infantry; William M. Maynard, of Maryland; C. Irving Wilson, of New York; John E. Blaine, of Montana; William H. Eckles, of Pennsylvania; C. K. Brennerman, of Texas; James R. Roche, of the District of Columbia; and R. H. Towler, of Oregon.

*Cavalry.*—First Lieutenant Wm. Harper, Jr., Sixth Cavalry, to be Captain, January 27, 1875, vice Irwin, dismissed.

Second Lieutenant Charles C. Morrison, Sixth Cavalry, to be First Lieutenant, January 27, 1875, vice Harper, promoted.

Second Lieutenant Henry P. Kingsbury, Sixth Cavalry, to be First Lieutenant, vice Chickering, cashiered.

*Artillery.*—Captain William Silvey, First Artillery, to be Major, February 7, 1875, vice Hay, deceased.

First Lieutenant Wm. E. Van Reed, Fifth Artillery, to be Captain.

First Lieutenants Chandler P. Eakin and Joseph P. Sanger, First Artillery, to be Captains.

Second Lieutenant David D. Johnson, to be First Lieutenant.

Second Lieutenants Robt. H. Patterson, Clermont L. Best, Jr., and George W. Deshler, First Artillery, to be first Lieutenants.

*Infantry.*—Second Lieutenants David R. Burnham, Fifteenth Infantry, to be First Lieutenant.

Second Lieutenant Geo. M. Love, Sixteenth Infantry, to be First Lieutenant.

To be Second Lieutenants. Fourteenth Regiment of Infantry, Frederick P. Calhoun, of Ohio, vice Briggs, promoted; Twentieth Regiment of Infantry, G. L. Rousseau, of Kentucky, vice Wood, promoted; Tenth Regiment of Infantry, William H. Tiffany, from at large, vice Harman, promoted.

#### LAWS OF THE XLIII. CONGRESS.

(Not of General Nature No. 33.)

AN ACT approving the action taken by the Secretary of War under the act approved July 15, 1870, and to provide for repayment of certain moneys paid to officers mustered out of the Army, as supernumerary, but subsequently re-appointed by the President.

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That the action heretofore taken by the Secretary of War to cause the year's pay and allowances granted by the act approved July 15, 1870, entitled "An act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the year ending June 30, 1871, and for other purposes," to such commissioned officers of the Regular Army as were, under the said act, mustered out of the service of the United States, to be refunded when any of the said officers have been, or shall be, again commissioned in the Regular Army, is hereby approved. Sec. 2. That hereafter whenever any person, who was mustered out as a supernumerary officer of the Army with one year's pay and allowances, in addition to the pay and allowances due him at the date of his discharge, under the provisions of the act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the year ending June 30, 1871, and for other purposes, approved July 15, 1870, shall be re-appointed by the President, an officer of the Army, such appointment shall be under and with the express condition, that fifty per cent. of such officer's pay shall be stopped monthly, until the sum total of the extra year's pay and allowances received by him, when mustered out as aforesaid, shall have been refunded to the United States. Approved March 3, 1875.

(General Nature No. 31.)

AN ACT to authorize the promulgation of the general regulations for the government of the Army.

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That so much of section 20 of the act approved July 15, 1870, entitled "An act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the year ending June 30, 1871, and for other purposes," as requires the system of general regulations for the Army therein authorized to be reported to Congress at its next session, and approved by that body, be, and the same is hereby repealed; and the President is hereby authorized under said section, to make and publish regulations for the government of the Army, in accordance with existing laws. Approved March 1, 1875.

(General Nature No. 32.)

AN ACT fixing the number of paymasters in the Army of the United States.

*Be it enacted, etc.,* That the number of paymasters is hereby established at fifty, instead of sixty, as was



designated in section 18 of the act of July 28, 1866, said paymasters to have the rank, pay, and emoluments of majors of cavalry. Sec. 2. That so much of said 18th section as relates to the persons from whom said paymasters shall be selected be, and is hereby, repealed. Approved March 2, 1875.

(General Nature No. 25.)

AN ACT in relation to the Quartermaster's Department fixing its status, reducing its numbers, and regulating appointments and promotions therein. Be it enacted, etc., That the Quartermaster's Department of the Army shall hereafter consist of the Quartermaster-General, with the rank, pay, and emoluments of a brigadier-general; four assistant quartermasters-general, with the rank, pay, and emoluments of colonels of cavalry; eight deputy quartermasters-general, with the rank, pay, and emoluments of lieutenant colonels of cavalry; fourteen quartermasters, with the rank, pay, and emoluments of majors of cavalry; and thirty assistant quartermasters, with the rank, pay, and emoluments of captains of cavalry. Sec. 2. That no more appointments shall be made in the grade of military storekeepers in the Quartermaster's Department, and this grade shall cease to exist as soon as the same becomes vacant by death, resignation, or otherwise of the present incumbents. Sec. 3. That no officer now in service shall be reduced in rank or deprived of his commission by reason of any provision of this act. Sec. 4. That no officer shall be promoted or appointed in the Quartermaster's Department in excess of the organization prescribed by this act, and that so much of section 6 of the act approved March 3, 1869, entitled "An act making appropriations for the support of the Army for the year ending June 30, 1870, and for other purposes," as applies to the Quartermaster's Department, be, and the same is hereby, repealed. Approved March 3, 1875.

#### PENSIONS OF THE WAR WITH MEXICO.

The Committee on Invalid Pensions, to whom was referred House bill 577, being a bill granting pensions to certain soldiers and sailors of the war with Mexico, and the widows of deceased soldiers, having considered the same, reported (but not unanimously) adversely, and asked to be discharged from further consideration of said bill. The views of the minority we give as presenting some interesting facts:

The Federal Government early adopted the policy of rewarding its soldiers and sailors who perilled their lives in the military and naval service to save the life of the republic with donations out of the public domain as well as by moneyed pensions. This policy has been steadily adhered to as wise, just, and humane.

The soldiers and sailors of the Mexican war of 1846 and 1848 suffered incredible hardships under a tropical sun and in a malarious climate, and by endurance, valor, and indomitable energy vanquished their foes and brought victory to our arms in a manner so glorious as to deserve at the hands of the country the recognition prayed for in their memorial.

The fruits of the Mexican war resulted in adding an immense area of rich territory to our public domain, out of which new States have been carved and others are yet to be added, besides a mineral wealth that has not only given great impetus to, but has enlarged and diversified the industry and commerce of the western continent.

The war commenced in the spring of 1846, and our soldiers were disbanded in July, 1848. Thus, in about two years, our troops marched into an enemy's country of vast extent, lying more than a thousand miles from the centre of our population, containing eight million people, subdued them, and dictated their own terms of peace.

What did we gain by that war? The great State of Texas was involved. The Mexicans claimed all that vast territory. This peace enabled us to establish her present lines, and sever her forever from that domination. By the treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo of February 2, 1848, and the Gadsden purchase of December, 1853, Mexico ceded to the United States the territory now covered by the States of California, Nevada, part of Nebraska, also all claim to the territory covered by the State of Texas, and by the Territories of Utah, Arizona, and New Mexico, by portions of the Territories of Wyoming and Colorado, and by the unorganized territory lying west of the Indian Territory, embracing in all about 937,975 square miles. This vast area contained more territory than all the organized States of the Union did at the time of its acquisition. To form some estimate of its richness and fertility, its value and commercial importance, we have but to examine its statistics for the past few years. The entire population of the newly-acquired territory in 1850 only numbered 406,637 inhabitants, and in 1870 had increased to 1,772,080 persons. The total wealth in 1850 was \$81,062,899; but in 1870 it had swelled to \$965,622,071. But so rapidly have the population and wealth increased within the past few years that at least one-fifth may be added to these figures for the years since the taking of the census, which will give us over two million inhabitants, and about \$1,200,000,000 of wealth. And in all the industries of the country, this acquired section will bear a favorable comparison according to population and wealth. In mining resources, however, it outstrips all the balance of the Union together; it is literally the great gold-field of America and of the world. Take, for example, the year 1860, and the total product of gold and silver in the United States amounted to \$81,500,000, of which sum the following amounts were produced, to wit:

California.....	\$22,500,000
Colorado and Wyoming.....	4,000,000
Arizona.....	1,000,000
New Mexico.....	500,000
Nevada.....	14,000,000
Total.....	42,000,000

And if this should be taken as an average year since 1850, say for the past twenty-five years, then we will have a yield of \$1,050,000,000, or over one billion dollars. This enormous sum has been sufficient of itself to give an impetus to the commerce of the whole continent, and has had its influence on the civilized world. But the mining resources of this section are believed to be inexhaustible. We have but just commenced, as it were, to dig the hidden wealth embedded in this El Dorado of America. A recent discovery of a bonanza in the silver-mines of Nevada is variously estimated by mining engineers to be worth from \$300,000,000 to a sum surpassing belief, stated as high as \$1,500,000,000.

But this territory was not only valuable in itself on account of its intrinsic wealth and resources, but it became the great highway to the Pacific Ocean and the Orient for the older and more densely populated States of the Union. In this respect, alone, it would more than compensate for all the expenditures of the Mexican war. Who is capable of estimating the value and importance of this acquisition or by what method can it be estimated? If we undertake to fix a value upon it, we must do so by statistics of what it is now, and what it was when acquired, comparing the one with the other in all the changes that have been wrought. But this must fail to give any just idea of its greatness and value to the country. We can form a better idea by asking the question, for what consideration would the general Government part with this 937,785 square miles, with its two millions of people and untold resources, and commanding position in the continent, holding in its arms the great gate-way to the empires of the East? No money consideration could buy it at all; its value is beyond price; we could not do without it; we can see in it a bright and glorious future of a dense population, containing all the true characteristics of wealth, refinement, and a high order of civilization. No war with a foreign country has produced such results in so short a time, and no troops acquitted themselves with more honor and made greater sacrifices during that period of their service. Having gained for the whole country that which for value cannot be estimated, and having reached a period when many of these veterans are in need, many of them in absolute want, and without the privilege of asylum in the Home established by a fund in which every soldier who served in Mexico has an interest, the country should not refuse to reward such faithful and worthy patriots. These soldiers who entered service in 1846, twenty-nine years ago, must be over fifty years of age, and are too feeble to compete with younger men in physical labor. The proceedings of the convention and a report of the officers of the association appointed by the convention to gather statistics in regard to the numbers of surviving veterans, have been submitted to the committee, from which it appears that less than 4,000 are known to be alive. From the testimony submitted, the committee are of opinion that 10 per centum of the whole number of officers, soldiers, sailors, and marines, engaged in the war from beginning to end, will cover in round numbers the survivors. Of this number a large proportion are now on the pension rolls for wounds received in Mexico and in later wars. Several of the State legislatures have passed resolutions requesting their Representatives in Congress to favor the passage of a law granting pensions to these old soldiers; and if the question was left to the decision of the people by a popular vote, in view of all the facts, the pension would undoubtedly be allowed by an overwhelming majority.

These soldiers have fought those battles and acquired that territory, and, without regard to past or present political views, should be recognized by the Government. Such an act would bring about a reconciliation between the two sections of our country more happily than any other act upon the part of the Government.

#### THE SOLDIERS OF THE MEXICAN WAR.

In a letter to the Secretary of War, General Thomas gave the following facts:

In the proceedings of the Mexican war veterans I noticed a letter addressed to you by A. G. Caruthers, late Assistant Surgeon and Brevet Captain U. S. Volunteers, dated Saltillo, Mexico, January 2, 1875, in reference to the burial place of the American soldiers who fell in the battles of Monterey and Buena Vista. Of those buried at Buena Vista I can give no information, but of those buried at Monterey I can give quite an accurate account, as I was called upon on several occasions to bury them, and read over them the services of the Protestant Episcopal church.

The first day of the battle an attack was made on both flanks of the town, Worth's division to the north, Twiggs' and Butler's volunteers to the south. On this day was the heavy loss. The second day we penetrated further in the town and fought more under cover, losing but few men. The third day a flag of truce was sent to the tanneries, the strong position taken and held by our troops, which led to a cessation of hostilities. General Worth, after taking the redoubt by the Bishop's palace and gaining a position in the north of the town, established a hospital in the beautiful garden of Arista. The deaths here I imagine to have been but few. Where the bodies of the dead of his division were buried I know not.

The body of Captain McKavett, Eighth Infantry, the first to fall (a round shot struck his head), I suppose was removed to the little burial place near General Taylor's camp at the Walnut Springs. It was impossible to remove the dead on the south flank of the town owing to a heavy fire from the enemy's lines behind a narrow, deep stream, and when this could be accomplished the bodies were in such a state as to require burial where they lay. The wounded were taken to the camp at Walnut Grove, where a hospital was improvised, and the dead buried in a little square clear-

ing of dense chaparral, not far north of the camp. All the officers were buried here except Lieutenant Graham, who, being a Roman Catholic, was by the Mexicans buried in their "Campo Santo." Six or eight wounded who fell into the hands of the Mexicans—including Captain Williams, Topographical Engineer—were buried by them in a corral against the west wall of an old convent. I had the body of Captain Williams removed to our burial place. The names of the officers are not given, as accurate information of them can be obtained in the office of the Adjutant-General. The little burial place was neatly enclosed by a wall of lime-stone, of blocks taken from the line of defence of the Mexicans, and at the head of each grave was placed a heavy wooden cross in the hope that the Mexicans would not desecrate them. What they did I know not. We felt perfectly satisfied that as soon as the troops were withdrawn the rancheros would not leave one stone above another.

#### THE CASE OF FITZ JOHN PORTER.

To the Editor of the Cincinnati Commercial:

SIR: Fitz John Porter has published another appeal for a rehearing. In it he accuses General Pope of using his influence to prevent a rehearing. This charge is sufficiently answered by a letter from Pope to the President, written nearly a year ago, which appeared in the Commercial.

Porter cannot keep still. He is like a man in a quicksand, he can't help struggling, though every effort sinks him deeper. The more his case is examined the plainer his crime appears. The transaction is too recent to be misrepresented. There are too many men still living in Ohio and Wisconsin who may remember how indignantly they chafed at being held back from the field where their comrades were vainly struggling with overwhelming numbers.

General Jackson, by his dashing advance, got to a point where, by a rapid concentration, he could be crushed before Lee's army could come up to his rescue. The first day of the second battle of Bull Run was fought between Pope and Jackson on the 29th of August, 1863. Porter and McDowell, under orders from Pope to march to his aid, moved out on the morning of that day. At noon, Porter having marched three or four miles, halted. McDowell passed by, and following up the sound of the contending guns, took his place in the battle that was raging.

Porter lay on the road all the afternoon. He heard the sound of the battle. His corps comprised one-third of the forces under Pope's command. It contained nearly all the Infantry and Artillery of the Regular Army. His men were fresh, they had marched little more than six miles in two days. He lay in careless disobedience, amusing himself with sending back to Alexandria insubordinate letters abusing his commander, listlessly hearing the battle going on, and finally writing to McDowell and King that our Army seemed, from the sounds of the guns, to be retreating, and he would retreat by another road. He received another peremptory order from Pope to advance, and thereupon retreated by a road which led him further from his suffering comrades.

That is the whole story, no statement of which is denied by Porter. He says, and that is all he says, there was a force in his front which Pope was not aware of, and he would have been hurt if he had moved forward and encountered it.

It happened several times in the war, as it must happen in every war, that a part of the Army was sent to a position where it must be crushed, but where its engagement enabled the Army as a whole to win victory. That is a matter for the commander to judge of. Success is impossible if a subordinate can say the part assigned to him in a battle is too hazardous, and he will keep out of the way, leaving the rest to fight it out.

But, by the captured records, we know now just what was the force in Porter's front. Porter reports he saw the dust of a heavy column, and exchanged some shots with their batteries. That supposed heavy column was, in fact, simply Stuart's cavalry. General Stuart says in his official report to Lee, that on seeing Porter's column in the road, he kept "detachments of Cavalry dragging brush down the road from the direction of Gainesville, so as to deceive the enemy, a ruse which Porter's report shows was successful;" obtained a reinforcement of three brigades of infantry and some guns, with which he fired a few shots, when the enemy (Porter) withdrew toward Manassas.

It was to save his corps from a perilous encounter with a few troops dragging brush over a dusty road, that Fitz John Porter admits he violated express orders, and left his commander to struggle unaided till forces coming up in the night crushed him next day.

Treason is a crime against the law. A man may be a traitor under the law without consciously soiling his personal honor. But treachery, the treachery of a soldier on the field of battle, is personal baseness. When an officer is guilty of that, the greatest boon he can ask is to be forgotten.

#### GENERAL POPE'S LETTER TO THE PRESIDENT.

WASHINGTON, April 18, 1874.

General U. S. Grant, President of the United States:

MR. PRESIDENT: It is no doubt known to you that General Fitz John Porter claims to have procured evidence since his trial, not attainable at the time, which would either acquit him of the crime of which he stands convicted or greatly modify the findings and sentence of the Court-martial before which he was tried, and that he has embodied in a printed pamphlet the kind and character of this evidence, and what he expects to establish by it, together with an appeal for a rehearing of his case. It is widely asserted by those who sympathize with him, and probably believed by many who have no personal interest in his case, that influences hostile to him have restrained you from examining this statement of his case, and have thus



worked great injustice by preventing the Executive from considering statements or evidence which might vindicate his character. It is needless to say to you that I have never used any influence with you, personal or other, to prevent the investigation of his statements, nor even intimated to you in any manner that I objected to any action you might think proper to take in the matter.

Nevertheless, as I do not wish even to seem to consent to any additional misconceptions concerning me or my action in this case, I beg (if you have not already done so) that you will yourself, Mr. President, examine as fully into the question as you think justice or mercy demands, or that you will order a board of competent officers of high rank, unconnected with the armies or transactions involved, to investigate fully the statements of this new evidence made by General Porter, and report to you what, if any, bearing it would have upon the finding and sentence of his Court-martial, even if it could be fully established.

I am, sir, etc., JOHN POPE,  
Brevet Major-General, U. S. A.

(Correspondence of the New York Tribune).

#### A SOLDIER'S INDIGNANT PROTEST.

PHILADELPHIA, March 6, 1875.

SIR: I trust that the failure of the misnamed Bounty Equalization bill to become a law will end the efforts of demagogues in Congress to purchase the soldier vote by bribes paid out of the Treasury. I speak as a soldier, who would have been entitled to share in the benefits of the bill if it had got upon the statute book, when I say that there is no demand by the soldiers themselves for the passage of it or any like measure. Every man who served worthily in the Army during the Rebellion, and who returned safe and sound to his home feels, I am confident, amply compensated for the dangers he faced and the privations he endured, by the grand and ennobling experience of having served his country in the time of her peril, and having been himself an actor in the most stirring events in modern history. It never occurred to him, when he wore the blue, that years afterward Congressmen would begin to reckon up the money value of his services at so much bounty a month, as if they were an article of merchandise. His maimed and disabled comrades and the widows and children of those who are dead he wants generously provided for, but he does not ask to be paid money, in the form of a gratuity out of a bankrupt Treasury, for services which ended ten years ago, and for which he was paid when discharged far more than the Government agreed to give him when he enlisted.

There was at one time a genuine movement for equalization of bounties. When the war ended, the men who enlisted in 1861 and 1862 had fresh in their minds the fact that comrades who joined in 1863 and 1864, got as high as \$300 Government bounty, besides large local bounties, while they had received only \$100. The Treasury was overflowing, and expenditures were on the most liberal scale. The soldiers thought that Congress could easily make Government bounties equal, and they sent in numerous petitions to that effect. A bill was prepared in the Thirty-ninth Congress by General Schenck, giving every man \$84 a month for the time served, and deducting all Government, State, and local bounties received. It passed the House, but came back from the Senate in the form of an additional bounty provision, tacked upon an Appropriation bill, which gave every man who had received \$100 bounty, \$100 more. In this shape it passed, and was accepted by the soldiers generally as final. Politicians, and a few ex-officers who had got control of the "Grand Army," and other soldiers' organizations for political ends, thought they saw a chance to benefit themselves. More petitions were sent in to the Fortieth Congress, and the House passed the old Schenck bill again, knowing perfectly well that the Senate would not pass it. By the time the Forty-first Congress met, all expectation on the part of the soldiers of getting more bounty had died, and the politicians had pretty much abandoned the movement. But with that Congress General John A. Logan succeeded to the Chairmanship of the House Military Committee. He considered himself as peculiarly the soldier's champion. The old bill was again revived by him, to be again passed and smothered by the Senate. Ever since then it has been a custom for the House to pass a bounty bill every session to conciliate, as the silly demagogues who supported it supposed, the soldier vote. It was a harmless performance, for the Senate always saved the Treasury from being despoiled by quietly pigeon-holing the bill. After awhile, however, the little game became a dangerous one, for General Logan, who went to the Senate in 1870, had become Chairman of the Military Committee in that body. He still cherished the notion that the votes of the soldiers could all be secured for the Republican party by paying them \$50 or \$100 apiece. We have seen the result. He worked away at his object until he induced his party associates, when wild with alarm at the prospect of losing their seats, to pass a bill which would have taken at least \$100,000,000 from the Treasury. I read in your Washington despatches that the President refused to sign the bill. If so, he deserves the thanks of every taxpayer and every patriotic soldier who despises the shallow demagogues who try to traffic in his vote. S.

A CLAUSE in the Military Academy Appropriation bill which recently passed Congress authorizes the President to fill any vacancy occurring at the said Academy by reason of death, or other cause, of any person appointed by him. Heretofore when the President has made his annual selection of cadets at large he has had no power to fill the vacancies occasioned by the discharge, failure, resignation, or death of those previously appointed, and heretofore there

have never been forty cadets at large at the Academy at any one time. Under the above-mentioned legislation, he, on Saturday, appointed the following-named cadets to enter in June, 1875. These are additional to the ten appointed for 1875 last spring: R. C. Van Vliet, son of General Sewart Van Vliet, Assistant Quartermaster-General U. S. Army; John S. Lugenbeel, son of Lieutenant-Colonel Pinkney Lugenbeel, First Infantry, U. S. Army; Henry H. Benham, son of Colonel H. W. Benham, Engineer Corps, U. S. Army; Harris Lee Roberts, son of Lieutenant-Colonel Benjamin S. Roberts, U. S. Army, deceased; Thomas L. Casey, son of Lieutenant-Colonel Thomas L. Casey, Engineer Corps, U. S. Army; Lea Febiger, son of Paymaster George L. Febiger; Louis Garesche, son of Colonel Garesche, United States Volunteers, killed in battle; Albert B. Scott, grandson of R. H. K. Whiteley, Ordnance Corps, U. S. Army; G. K. Sands, son of Rear-Admiral Sands, U. S. Navy; William Van Leer, of Pennsylvania, son of William J. Van Leer, killed in battle.

The President has also appointed the following persons alternates to supply the places in September, 1875, of any of the foregoing appointees who may fail in June: Edmund D. Smith, of Connecticut, son of Hon. Truman Smith, first alternate; Winfield S. Scott, of Memphis, second alternate; George W. Goode, of Missouri, third alternate; John B. Marcom, of Massachusetts, fourth alternate; Guy E. Hase, fifth alternate; William B. Reynolds, of Maryland, sixth alternate; Theodore Bingham, of New-Hampshire, seventh alternate.

The President has also, under the law requiring appointments to be made a year in advance of admission, appointed for June, 1876: Frederick V. Abbot, son of Major Henry L. Abbot, Engineer Corps, U. S. Army; George Bell, son of Major George Bell, Subsistence Department, U. S. Army; Benjamin W. Brice, Jr., son of Ex-Paymaster General Brice, U. S. Army; Mark Deans, Jr., of Pennsylvania, son of a soldier of the Third Pennsylvania Cavalry, killed in battle; Otto Gresham, of Indiana, son of General W. G. Gresham, United States Volunteers; John Guest, Jr., son of Commodore Guest, U. S. Navy; Charles H. Hunter, of the District of Columbia, nephew of General D. Hunter; William B. Le Pue, of Minnesota, son of Brigadier-General Le Pue, United States Volunteers; John D. Ruff, of Pennsylvania, son of General C. F. Ruff, United States Volunteers, and John B. Ray, of Ohio, son of D. Gano Ray, Esq., of Cincinnati.

The following are the alternates for 1876, as far as appointed: George W. Upton, of Oregon, first alternate; Leonard C. Couch, of Connecticut, son of the late Major-General D. K. Couch, second alternate; Charles Clark, son of the Bandmaster of the Twenty-third Infantry, third alternate.

## THE NAVY.

The Editor invites for this department of the JOURNAL all facts of interest to the Navy, especially such as relate to the movement of officers or vessels.

#### VARIOUS NAVAL ITEMS.

THE new sloop-of-war *Huron* was successfully launched at Norfolk on the 8th inst.

ACTING Paymaster General of the Navy, James H. Watmough, visited the Philadelphia Navy-yard on the 6th inst., and was saluted with eleven guns.

THE *Richmond* arrived at Talcahuana, Chili, on the 28th of January last, having been ninety-one days from Panama.

WE regret to learn that Pay Director William Brenton Boggs is lying dangerously ill at his residence in Georgetown, D. C.

A TELEGRAM from Lieutenant Commander Ryan, dated at Kerguelan, January 3, received via England, reports successful observations of the Transit of Venus.

THE *Benicia*, at Mare Island, is getting ready to sail on a cruise of four or five months on the northern part of the Pacific Station, Alaska, Oregon and Washington Territory.

AMONG the recent confirmations of the Senate was the Rev. Thomas A. Gill, to be chaplain in the Navy. Chaplain Gill served in the Volunteer Army during the war as a lieutenant of Cavalry, and was brevetted for gallantry on the field at Gettysburg.

THE *Saranac*, Captain Queen, sailed from San Francisco, March 6, direct for Acapulco. Her mission it is understood is to inquire into the recent disturbances at Acapulco, on which occasion a citizen of the United States was killed.

PRESS despatch from Panama dated February 26, says: Commander Lull, who is surveying the route for a canal along the line of the railroad, finds the result more favorable than was expected, and has discovered a lower summit level than that of the railroad, which is 262 feet.

THE Secretary of the Navy has recently decided that officers of the Navy ordered from home to a distant point, as members of Courts-martial, are entitled to their hotel bills, not exceeding five dollars a day, when they have not been able to discontinue their expenses at home, and to the smaller allowance of three dollars a day when they have been able to discontinue such expenses wholly or in part.

THE Aspinwall correspondent of the *Panama Star and Herald*, under date of Feb. 13, says: The U. S. S. *Canandaigua* arrived from the *Atrato* at 10 A. M. She left there last Wednesday. She was detained at the *Atrato* seven days in sending the Darien surveyors up to the river. The party landed and commenced their

survey in good health and spirits. All well on board the *Canandaigua*. The officers will now proceed to survey the mouth of the Chagres.

THE *New York Herald* says: A man named Hamilton Beam was recently appointed to the position of engineer in the Brooklyn Navy-yard, and was detailed to take charge of one of the steam fire engines. When he applied for the place he informed Captain Temple that he was a thorough engineer and could "take an engine to pieces and put it together again." On Thursday of last week he was instructed to test the engine. The machine was driven down to the dock and was soon at work under a full head of steam. The engineer, who appears to have been entirely unfamiliar with his duties, neglected to keep the boiler supplied with water, which caused the steam pipes to burn out and the boiler to explode with great violence. Fortunately no one was injured, but the explosion entailed a loss to the Government of about \$15,000. Beam was discharged by Uncle Sam's representatives without further ado.

It is proposed by the Superintendent and Instructors of the Naval Academy to found at that institution a Mineralogical Cabinet. Through the kindness of the Hon. Joseph Wilson, Commissioner of the General Land Office, a beginning has been made, and these specimens, together with those of the professor in charge, have been classified and arranged. It is unnecessary to point out the advantages of such a cabinet to the institution. The growing importance of the study of natural science is realized by all educators, and it is equally well understood that the study can only be pursued through the observation of natural phenomena and natural objects.

But beyond the immediate value of a collection for purposes of instruction in the Academy there seems to be other and more important reasons why such a collection should be made there. The building up of a mineral cabinet which shall illustrate the science completely can only be effected by securing specimens from all possible localities, and it is believed that if exercised this institution has unusual facilities for attaining this end, for its representatives visit all parts of the globe. Consequently, in the interest of science and for the benefit of its students, the officers of the institution deem it incumbent upon them to avail themselves of these opportunities to form such a cabinet as shall be worthy of the Academy and its friends, and shall be of permanent value to mineralogists. To secure this end it is desired to call the attention of the friends of the Academy to this object, and to solicit their assistance and co-operation in its accomplishment. What can be done is evidenced at West Point, where there is a collection of which they may well be proud, and it would seem that with a wider field for cultivation the Academy at Annapolis should realize a larger yield. The maintaining of the cabinet there will be of the greatest benefit to such officers of the Navy as may have a taste for the science, for it will serve to stimulate and encourage them in its pursuit. It is desirable that those of our officers who have an aptitude for the study should be familiar with the science, for the numerous expeditions to unfrequented lands offer them peculiarly good opportunities for adding to the fund of human knowledge.

THE Swedish man-of-war *Gefle*, a corvette of ten guns, arrived in Philadelphia on the 24th of February. The officers of the Naval Station at that port were among the foremost to welcome the new arrivals, and they were willingly seconded by the leading citizens of the city. The officers of the *Gefle* were invited to a succession of entertainments: by George W. Childs, to the Walnut Street theatre, and afterwards to supper with the naval officers at the yard, by J. G. Rosengarten; by John Welsh to the Centennial Grounds, and to dinner to meet his fellow commissioners of the Great Exhibition, by James H. Campbell, formerly American Minister to Sweden; by Dr. Swan and Henry C. Gibson to their galleries; by Messrs. Whitney and Sellers to their Great Industrial establishments; by Bloomfield H. Moore to the Academy of Music and to a supper and dancing party at his own house; by Judge Hare and Colonel Thomas A. Scott to the Saturday Clubs; by C. J. Peterson, James L. Claghorn and many other leading citizens, and all the objects of interest were exhibited to them by the care of our own Navy officers, while the Philadelphia Union League and Reform clubs made them welcome guests during their stay. The great event, however, of their visit was the dinner party given by the officers of the Naval Station, at the Union League, on Thursday evening, March 4. The guests present were Captain Fischerstrom, commanding in chief; Captain von Hedenberg, the executive officer; Lieutenants Pubé, Hjulhammer, von Dardel, Glens, Count Hamilton; Surgeon Groth and Paymaster Lagerhohn, with the Hon. James A. Campbell, Mr. Westergaard, the Swedish consul, and Mr. Rosengarten. Of our own officers, there were present: Captain Wells, Lieutenants Eting, McIlvaine, Reeder; Dr. Spear, Dr. Taylor, Major Dawson of the Marines, Paymasters Russell and Burtis, Dr. Beaumont, and Passed Assistant Engineer Fuller, etc. The party sat down in the beautiful dining room of the League House to an elegant entertainment, which lasted until a late hour in the night. The regular toasts: To the King of Sweden, to the Swedish Navy, and to the *Gefle* and her Officers, were given by Captain Wells, who presided, and were responded to by the Swedish guests; with toasts to the President of the United States, our Navy, the Officers of the Philadelphia Naval Station, and suitable remarks were made in proposing and answering the regular toasts. Afterwards there were many volunteer toasts, one to the Secretary of the Navy, and speeches, and Mr. James H. Campbell made a stirring address, full of fire and interest, giving the history of the early ties between Sweden and its colony of New Sweden, the Philadelphia of to-day—of the friendship between our revolutionary ancestors and the Swedish Government of that time, and the



reminiscences of his own long official residence in Sweden excited the enthusiasm of his Swedish listeners, as he described the charms of their native country, and the hospitality of its people from the king down, to all American visitors. The dinner closed with the good old Navy sentiment of "Sweethearts and wives," and thus brought to an end one of the most agreeable reunions we have had the pleasure of chronicling. We trust the Centennial will bring many more.

The following named gentlemen visited the *Gefle*, on Monday, 8th inst., and were kindly received and entertained by Captain Fischerstrom in his cabin, viz: The Hon. James H. Campbell, formerly minister to Stockholm, Ex-Mayor Daniel M. Fox and son, Pay Inspector A. W. Russell, Mr. Ward Hazeltine, Seth Comly, Esq., Collector of the Port, the Swedish Consul, and Mr. Rosengarten. The *Gefle* sailed for home on the 9th. Previous to leaving Captain Fischerstrom addressed a letter to the Hon. John Welsh, President of the Centennial Board of Finance, in the course of which he said: "In behalf of myself and the officers of H. S. M. S. *Gefle*, I wish to be allowed to tender to you and Director-General Goshorn our most sincere and heartfelt thanks for the courtesy shown to us by the Centennial authorities at our visit to the grounds in course of preparation for the Grand International Exhibition of 1876. It certainly conveys to us the idea that it will do utmost honor to one of the greatest events in history, and one which has made the American people one of the greatest in the world, the Declaration of Independence of the United States; and we feel very proud that Sweden is going to participate in the noblest contest we can enter in the list for—the peaceable contest of industry and art, which certainly will give you as much honor, though in another way, as those glorious battles fought a century ago, and which have so much conducted to make you the great nation you now are." The following communication was also sent by the officers of the ship to his Honor the Mayor: "The captain, commodore, and officers of his Imperial Majesty's steamship *Gefle*, on account of the shortness of their stay in Philadelphia, not being able in any other way to acknowledge the great and unaccustomed kindness and hospitality which they have been so fortunate as to meet with in this city, ask permission to tender to you and the citizens their most hearty thanks for all the courtesies received. They have visited with great interest the various institutions and public buildings of the city, which were especially attractive to them on account of the associations with both old and new Sweden, and have everywhere been received with the utmost kindness. This visit will always remain in their memories as one of the most pleasant they have ever made, and they wish to convey to you the hope that it will be still one link more in that strong chain of friendship and mutual good feeling which has always existed between America and Sweden.

On Monday, March 8, for the first time since the close of the war, a vessel was launched at the Norfolk Navy-yard. The band of the receiving ship *New Hampshire* furnished music for the occasion, and the Marine Corps, in full uniform, were also in attendance. Every available point of observation was occupied by eager crowds of sight-seers, and the harbor was crowded with tugs and small boats, all loaded with friends to witness the scene. On the bow of the new vessel a platform was erected, upon which were Commodore T. H. Stevens, Commandant; Captain T. Scott Fillebrown, Executive officer; Chief Engineer E. D. Robie; Naval Constructors Thomas E. Webb, of the Washington Navy-yard, and Frank L. Fernald, assistant of Isaiah Hanscom, Chief Bureau of Construction, Navy Department; Constructor Geo. R. Boush, of the Yard, their families and friends. Shortly after ten o'clock, everything being in readiness, the order was given to saw off the ends of the ways, which was accomplished in a few seconds, and the new ship took to the water like a duck. As she left the ways, Miss Eulalia Boush, daughter of the constructor, christened her by breaking a bottle of native Virginia wine over her bow, and saying, "Thy name is *Huron*; may success attend thee," which was greeted with cheers by the spectators. The receiving ship *New Hampshire* then fired a salute of twenty-one guns, after which the vast crowd of spectators began gradually to disperse. The *Huron* is one of the eight sloops of war authorized by act of Congress approved February 10, 1873, all of which have already been launched except the *Trenton*. Her frame was raised September 3, 1873, under the supervision of Constructor John W. Easby. Her dimensions are as follows: Length over all, 213 feet; length of deck, 191 feet; depth of hold, 16 feet; and she will be about 650 tons register. She will have a forward and after cabin, ten staterooms in the wardroom, and ample accommodations for the officers. Her battery will consist of one 11-inch pivot gun, four 9-inch broadside guns, and one 60-pounder rifle. The magazine will be arranged to accommodate the ammunition required for the batteries, and will also have accommodations for torpedoes and their appurtenances. The *Huron* will be bark-rigged, and will no doubt do much of her cruising under canvas. She has a fine model, and the appearance of possessing speed. Her engines and boilers were built by James Murphy and Co., of the Quintard Iron Works, New York, and are first class. The engine has a high blow pressure cylinder of 34 and 51 inches, respectively. She has a propeller with four blades 14 feet in diameter and 19 feet pitch, and a telescopic smoke stack. After the vessel was successfully launched, a number of officers and their ladies assembled in the Court-martial room, where an elegant repast had been prepared by Assistant Naval Constructor Geo. R. Boush.

The Military and Naval Committees as organized for the Senate, now in extra session, are as follows: On

Military Affairs—Mr. Logan, Chairman; Messrs. Cameron of Pennsylvania, Spencer, Clayton, Wadleigh, Ransom, Burnside, Randolph, and Cockrell. On Naval Affairs—Mr. Cragin, Chairman; Messrs. Anthony, Morrill of Maine, Sargent, Conover, Norwood, and Whyte.

## NAVY GAZETTE.

### REGULAR NAVAL SERVICE.

#### ORDERED.

MARCH 3.—Captain Wm. F. Spicer, to command the Naval Rendezvous, Boston, on the 8th inst.

MARCH 10.—Commander Bushrod B. Taylor, as member of Board of Inspection.

Lieutenant Commander Thomas Nelson, now on leave of absence in Europe, to report to Rear-Admiral Worden for duty on board the Franklin.

Lieutenant Theodore T. Wood, to the Navy-yard, New York.

Pay Director Thomas H. Looker, to duty at Baltimore on the 1st April next.

Surgeon James H. Tinkham, to the Naval Hospital, Philadelphia.

#### DETACHED.

MARCH 3.—Captain George E. Belknap, from command of the receiving ship Ohio on the 8th inst., and ordered to the Navy-yard, Pensacola, as Captain of the yard on the 15th inst.

Captain A. A. Semmes, from the Navy-yard, Pensacola, on the 5th inst., and ordered to proceed home and wait orders.

Commander James O'Kane, from the command of the Naval Rendezvous, Boston, on the 8th inst., and ordered to the temporary command of the receiving ship Ohio, at Boston.

MARCH 6.—Chief Engineer A. H. Able, from the Navy-yard, Philadelphia, and placed on waiting orders.

MARCH 8.—Acting Sailmaker Geo. P. Barnes, from the Ossipee, and resignation accepted, to take effect on the 31st inst.

MARCH 10.—Rear-Admiral Worden, commanding the European Station, has been directed to detach Lieutenant R. B. Bradford from the Franklin, and to order him to return home and report arrival.

Captain John C. Beaumont, from duty as member of the Board of Inspection, and placed on waiting orders.

Master N. E. Niles, from the Ossipee, and ordered to return home for examination.

Midshipmen John W. Stewart, John F. Parker, Matthew G. Reynolds, Warner H. Nestrand, and Bernard O. Scott, from the Plymouth, and ordered to temporary duty on board the Roanoke.

Pay Director C. C. Jackson, from duty at Baltimore on the 1st April next, and ordered to settle accounts.

### RELIEVED FROM FURLOUGH.

Captain R. B. Lowry.

### LIST OF DEATHS

In the Navy of the United States, which have been reported to the Surgeon-General, for the week ending March 10, 1875:

Ivan Michaeloff, landsman, March 2, Naval Hospital, New York.

### CHANGES IN THE MARINE CORPS.

The following are the changes in the officers of the Marine Corps since last memoranda, viz:

Second Lieutenant George R. Benson detached from the Marine Barracks, Norfolk, Va., and ordered to duty at the Marine Barracks, Brooklyn, New York.

### THE LATE REAR-ADMIRAL DU PONT.

The following biography of the late Rear-Admiral Du Pont, from the pen of Commodore Foxhall A. Parker, U. S. Navy, appears in the first volume of Johnson's "New Illustrated Universal Cyclopædia," of which Commodore Parker is one of the associate editors:

Du Pont (Samuel Francis), U. S. Navy, born of French descent September 27, 1803, at Bergen Point, N. J., entered the Navy as a midshipman December 19, 1815, became a lieutenant in 1836, a commander in 1842, a captain in 1855, a rear-admiral in 1862. To attempt to give even a brief outline of the services of one whose naval life of fifty years was but a record of constant and continuous devotion to the Navy and the country, within the limits assigned to this volume, would indeed be vain. The writer must, therefore, restrict himself to saying that, while in command of the *Cyane* on the west coast of Mexico, during our war with that republic, Du Pont added to a name already distinguished, a reputation for ability, sound judgment, discretion, and daring, which all his after service tended greatly to strengthen; so that when the first act of the drama of the civil war opened with the fall of Fort Sumter, Du Pont stood prominently forward, by the side of Farragut and Foote, as one to whom might safely be entrusted the honor and welfare of his country in this hour of need. So soon, therefore, as the Government had decided "to seize and occupy one or more important points on our Southern coast," it confided to his care that part of the joint Army and Navy expedition organized for this purpose, upon which the success of the whole depended; and when he unfurled his flag from the mast-head of the *Wabash*, the desk of the Secretary of the Navy was filled with applications from officers asking to serve under him; for all were anxious to follow whithersoever Du Pont might choose to lead. How well founded their confidence the result shows; for on the evening of the ninth day, after sailing from Hampton Roads, Du Pont, with his fleet of fifteen vessels, was in possession of Port Royal Bay, one of the finest and largest harbors of the South, after a brilliant and successful engagement of four hours with two strong forts, splendidly garrisoned and mounting forty-three guns, all but four of which were of heavy calibre. He now established a rigid blockade of the coast, pushed his vessels into almost every bay, inlet, and river of South Carolina, Georgia, and Florida, and took possession of several strong places which served as *points d'appui* for the Army.

On the 7th of April, 1863, at 3 P. M., he engaged Fort Sumter with eight iron-clads, and, not having silenced the fort at 4:30 P. M., made signal then "to withdraw from action," intending to renew the engagement on the following morning; but, finding that many of his vessels were injured, and one, the *Kookuk*, sunk, he became convinced that to do so would be "to convert failure into disaster," and abandoned his design, expressing to the Department his opinion that Charleston could not be taken "by a purely naval attack," a judgment that the events of the next two years amply vindicated and sustained. In July, 1863,

being relieved from the command of the South Atlantic fleet, he returned to his home, where he died on the 23d of June, 1865, sincerely regretted by the whole Navy.

A thorough seaman, an accomplished officer, a Christian gentleman, he was beloved by all who came in contact with him, and best by those who knew him best. His mind, like his stature, was above that of ordinary men, his person graceful and commanding, his countenance handsome, thoughtful, and interesting; and "in looking upon him," as Tacitus says of the wise and virtuous Agricola, "you would have been easily convinced that he was a good man, and you would have been willing to believe him a great one."

### THE BRITISH MEDICAL SERVICES.

AN "Order in Council" was issued from "the Court at Osborne House, Isle of Wight," under date of February 4, giving the Queen's approval of the following regulations concerning the position of medical officers in the British Navy: That surgeons on entry shall have the same relative rank as paymasters, chief engineers, and naval instructors—namely, shall rank with lieutenants under eight years' seniority, and shall have uniform corresponding to such relative rank. That staff-surgeons shall be denominated "Fleet-Surgeons," and staff-surgeons second-class simply staff-surgeons; the distinction in rank between these two grades to be denoted by a small difference in the uniform. That inspectors-general shall be compulsorily retired at the age of sixty, on £3 per day, provided they shall have completed the period of service now required to entitle them to the maximum half-pay of their rank. That deputy inspectors-general shall be compulsorily retired at sixty, if the first six of their rank, at 33s. per day, others at 30s. per diem, provided that they shall have completed the period of service now required to entitle the maximum half-pay of their rank. That fleet-surgeons and staff-surgeons shall be placed on the same scale of retirement as chaplains and naval instructors, secretaries, and paymasters; that is, the maximum to be £450 per year instead of £400. That any fleet-surgeon shall have the option of retiring after twenty years' full-pay service in all ranks at 15s. per day, and after twenty-five years' service at 21s., subject in each case to our approval; but that of those now on the list, not more than ten shall retire under this clause in each year (the officers having the option according to seniority), unless we should approve (with the consent of the Lords Commissioners of your Majesty's Treasury) of a larger number so retiring. That of the medical officers to be hereafter entered, all shall have the option of so retiring, subject to the Admiralty's approval in each case.

The *Broad Arrow* remarks of the order: "It has all the appearance of a good scheme, from which all the real goodness has been extracted; and has, moreover, all the appearance of a scheme which has been finally settled by those who know nothing of what is wanted. As it stands, it will, we think, have but little effect on the outside candidates. There is no increased pay, which is almost the root of the evil; but there is a better scale of retirement, which does not, as a rule, prove attractive to young men. To those who are now in the Service it will, we have no doubt, be welcomed as a boon in many ways; but the vital point, the necessity for attracting to the navy medical men of ability, has been altogether missed. It is useless to suppose this scheme will really satisfy either the Service of the country.

At the present time, says the London *Lancet*, Government is recruiting for its Medical Services. Competitive examination is the one-port system adopted. Miserably paid as many of the various posts under Government are, some of them never fail to attract a large number of candidates. There is very considerable competition for admission to the Royal Academy, Woolwich, for direct commissions into the army, and for the navy, and, in the case of Woolwich, the test is a very severe one. When we turn, however, to our public Medical Services, the contrast becomes very striking, for, from the comparative paucity of the candidates, the competition is almost reduced to nothing, and the examination may practically be considered to effect the exclusion of ignorant and undesirable candidates rather than the selection of the more efficient and best trained young men of the profession. Of the Medical Services, that of the Indian Army has always hitherto attracted the best class of men, and we confidently expect that the advantages of the Naval Service under the new warrant will soon be recognized. Notwithstanding that Government Service gives a claim to pension, that it offers opportunities for gaining distinctions and honors, and affords a regular, if small, rate of pay, which removes the harass and anxiety attending the uncertainties of private practice, the medical services are very unpopular. Nor can anyone wonder that it is so. Take the case of the army. From the Crimean war to the present day, the medical officers appear to have been engaged in one incessant struggle to improve or maintain their position. What was conceded one day was cancelled or explained away the next, and regulation after regulation, and warrant after warrant have been published, each one worse than the last, until it has come to this—that you cannot find a medical officer who has a good word for the Service to which he belongs. Setting aside altogether the altered organization as a matter about which there is some difference of opinion, regimental medical officers found; to their dismay, one morning, that their names had been struck out of the "Army List" in the most arbitrary way possible, contrary to all the usages of the Service; they were saddled with new duties and additional work, and at the same time deprived of some of their allowances in an equally arbitrary fashion; and royal warrants have been set aside by army circulars.



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We received a short time since an advertisement of "C. H. Brown and Co.," of St. Louis, Mo., which, as it advertised nothing worse than candies, seemed to be harmless enough. A subscriber who responded to the advertisement writes to inform us that he never heard from money sent to them, and that subsequent letters of inquiry have been returned to him with the word "Fraud" marked on the envelope. As a similar fate has attended a letter of inquiry from this office, we must caution our subscribers to beware of this particular member of the Brown family. We are as careful as we can well be in regard to the advertising in the JOURNAL, and are extremely annoyed at finding that we were deceived in this case.

The German War Office has prolonged the term for officers and sub-officers to pass at the school of musketry from six months to seven, the seven to be served in two periods of three months and a-half each, respectively in spring and autumn of the same year. The staff of teachers has been increased, and the number of officers and sub-officers told off every year for the service is to be increased likewise.

## U. S. ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL.

NEW YORK, SATURDAY, MARCH 13, 1875.

Office, No. 23 Murray Street, New York.  
SUBSCRIPTION, SIX DOLLARS A YEAR.

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NOW that the full details of the WIMPFEN libel suit have come over, including a résumé of the evidence, the importance of the result is easy to estimate. There is little doubt but that the decision of the court and especially the character of the testimony will prove ere long to be the best cards that have been dealt to the BONAPARTE dynasty in the game of Empires since the disastrous hand on which they threw up that game at Sedan. We can all remember the cry of exultation from Germany, the wail of despair from France, after the fatal day which left the name of NAPOLEON covered with disaster and humiliating ridicule. The Sun of Austerlitz became a byword for contempt, and none was found to reverence the fallen monarch, whose Sphinx-like silence had filled Europe with awe, only a few short years before. And yet, amid the taunts and jeers of all his enemies, a few men were found, both in England and America, to respect the manly frankness with which the fallen emperor took upon himself the whole blame of the disaster at Sedan, and to own that it raised him above the mingled contempt and rage with which his enemies, and especially those most virulent of all, the French Red Republicans, regarded him. Of all enemies in the world, none have ever proved so thoroughly and unscrupulously malignant as these same "Reds" towards the whole dynasty of BONAPARTE since Sedan. While the French in general have always been, and still are, proud of the memory of the First NAPOLEON, proud of his campaigns, the most masterly in Europe since the time of FREDERICK THE GREAT, the Reds have occupied their time since 1871 mainly in trying to influence public opinion against the two NAPOLEONS. Political pamphlet and speech, partisan history, and partisan pamphlet under the guise of novel, headed by the Alsations, ERCKMANN-CHATRAIN, and followed by shoals of imitators, have flooded the world with words, followed by more words, to prove that the French republicans were giants in intellect and angels in purity, and that both the NAPOLEONS were equally unscrupulous and contemptible thieves and charlatans, totally devoid of any mental energy, save in the direction of kleptomania. Especially on the devoted head of NAPOLEON III. were poured the vials of wrath for the surrender of Sedan, which they imputed solely to him. Public opinion in the United States was against him, and the opinion was common that General WIMPFEN, who was in command at the time of the surrender, was sacrificed, by being brought in when it was too late, only to share in a disaster made inevitable by others.

Now at last the testimony has come out, where it cannot be cavilled at or objected to, as sworn evidence in a court of justice. Books on both sides have been written, but books are always unsatisfactory things, as they are necessarily one sided. A trial in court, where both sides have their say, generally accomplishes the end sought for, the publication of the truth. In this case it is the more reliable, because brought out by the efforts of WIMPFEN himself, the champion and martyr of the Reds, and spite of all his efforts it has proved ruinous to his own reputation and a great mitigation to the responsibility of NAPOLEON III. for the Sedan disaster.

The testimony given by Generals DUCROT, DOUAY, LEBRUN, PAJOL, and GALLIFET, all summoned by WIMPFEN, and commanding under him at Sedan, and of other officers of lower grade, present at the surrender, was unanimous. All confirmed the statements published some time since by General DUCROT, in a book answering one from WIMPFEN, and it is a matter of remark that the book was soon forgotten and attracted little attention, tending to show the essential weakness of the book method of controversy, while to-day the world has generally made up its mind on the WIMPFEN subject and rendered its verdict in accordance with that of the court. It appears that WIMPFEN arrived at the front on the 30th of August, when MACMAHON was still present, with an order making him second in command, that he kept that order in his pocket and did not report his arrival till next day, the 31st, still without presenting the order, as things looked serious and he wished to avoid any responsibility. That he remained at headquarters till next day, Sept. 1st, when MACMAHON was wounded at 6 A. M., and DUCROT assumed the command at 6.30 A. M. That DUCROT ordered a retreat, which began at 7 A. M., he seeing that Sedan was untenable and ultimate capture certain. That General LEBRUN was sent to occupy the plateau of Illy, and that DUCROT had resolved to sacrifice the Twelfth Corps to save the Army, and secure a retreat. That LEBRUN drove the Prussians with such vigor that he seemed to be gaining ground. That then, at 9 A. M., after two hours' fighting, WIMPFEN, thinking a victory possible, relieved DUCROT, took command, stopped the retreat and the movement towards Illy, in spite of DUCROT's protests, and ordered all the troops to the front. "It is not a retreat we want, but a victory," he said, "We are going to drive the Germans into the Meuse." DUCROT's reply was simple: "Provided they do not drive us there. In an hour you will have no chance even for retreat." The Germans had then stopped firing. They were flanking. WIMPFEN would not believe DUCROT. Till 1 P. M. he waited, imagining the battle was his own. At 1 P. M. the Germans had surrounded him, the battle reopened and all was lost. The rout ensued, and the Emperor took the responsibility of raising the white flag, after 15,000 men had slaughtered. Then WIMPFEN rushed to the Emperor and said he had lost the battle because his officers would not obey his orders. Then DUCROT spoke: "It was because they obeyed your orders too well. But for your presumption in stopping the retreat we should have saved most of the Army, and at least avoided a capitulation." WIMPFEN then offered his resignation. The Emperor refused it. He had claimed the command hoping the fame of a victory, he must accept the responsibility of defeat.

The verdict of the jury that he was responsible for the surrender will be accepted as correct on the facts as attested by so many sworn witnesses. The responsibility of the previous movements has already been fully accepted by MACMAHON, and the hasty judgment which piled everything on the shoulders of NAPOLEON III. bids fair to be reversed, at least for this crowning disaster. The more the history of the Franco-Prussian war is examined without passion or prejudice, the stronger becomes the conviction that a great deal of injustice has been done to the unfortunate French. In our blind admiration of success, we have been wont to undervalue the difficulties that beset them from the beginning of the war, and to attribute to a semi-supernatural skill on one side, and a fancied degeneracy on the other, events really due to the simple superiority of enormous numbers, exercised without serious blunders.

THE general interest manifested by Army officers in rifle shooting, and especially in the last and coming International matches, make a résumé of the current state of affairs in regard to these matters a periodical necessity. The present year promises to be the most successful yet known in the annals of rifle practice, not only in the United States, but also in Great Britain. The enthusiasm awakened in America by the unexpected result of the International match of 1874, and by the fact that the victory was one of undoubted merit, not a mere accident, is equalled by the determination on the other side of the Atlantic to beat us on the return match, if the thing be possible. The Return Match of 1875 will not only be anxiously watched in Ame-



rica, but also in Europe. The great advantage, for previous comparison of practice, of the Atlantic Cable Telegraph, will be eagerly appreciated, and as soon as the weather opens the scores of each day's practice will be flashed to and fro over the wires, till the excitement will gradually mount to fever heat. The element of national pride involved in this match is more strictly legitimate than in any other sport or contest, short of actual war. The result depends not on dumb animals, nor on a single gladiator, but on the skill, coolness and courage of a knot of picked men, chosen from a clientage purely national in each case. The contest is one between men as men, not between specialists. Any man of courage, coolness, fair physical condition, with the education and intelligence of the average citizen, may be entered as a possible rifleman; and professionals have little or no advantage in long range matches over amateurs, if the latter work hard. The contest depends on national qualities the most valuable to be fostered in the battle of life, and it is the intuitive feeling of this fact that lends most of the interest to the coming match on both sides of the Atlantic.

The preparations thus far may be briefly summed up as follows. The team from America will consist of ten men, including the reserve. The contesting team will be either six or eight men, as the captain may determine at the last moment, this matter being left in his discretion. The team and reserve will be chosen from the native shots, all over America, who may choose to compete for places. There will be at least six contests at Creedmoor for places in the team, and the men making the best averages all through will be the men selected. Each contest will be an exact repetition in conditions of the last and coming International matches, namely, at 800, 900, and 1,000 yards, fifteen shots each range, any position without artificial rest, any rifle not over ten pounds weight; any sights not telescopic, magnifying, or concealing the danger signal. The expenses of the team are placed at \$6,000, of which about half is already subscribed; and money continues to pour in from all quarters. An entertainment will be given at the Academy of Music, New York, early in April, which is expected to complete the sum necessary to send over the team in a manner to reflect credit on the nation. In the meantime subscriptions may be sent to General McMAHON, Treasurer, N. R. A., 93 Nassau Street, New York, by those who wish to do themselves honor and the nation credit by contributing to the contest.

THE bill to equalize bounties narrowly escaped becoming a law, President GRANT promptly vetoing it after it had passed both Houses of Congress in the closing hours of the session. The Senate amended the bill as it passed the House, and sent it back. Both Houses then referred it to a Conference Committee. The committee advised the House of Representatives to recede from its objections to the Senate amendments. This advice was acted upon, and the bill engrossed and signed by the Speaker. In the Senate the report of the Conference Committee was laid on the table, but the Vice-President, holding that the acceptance of the Senate amendments by the House passed the bill, signed it, and sent it to the President, by whom it was returned with his objections.

We had no idea that this bounty bill would make such progress, or we should have expressed our objections to it before. The President has done himself honor in refusing his signature to it. Those chiefly interested in its passage were the claim agents, and such sentiment as there was in its favor was chiefly of their manufacture. To equalize the distribution of the honors and emoluments of our war is an impossible task, and the fact that some men on enlisting received more than others is no good reason why the Government should be asked, at this late date, to revise its contracts with those who accepted what it offered them at the time of enlistment. And to put vast sums into the pockets of agents for the purpose of securing some remote and doubtful advantage to principals who are, as a body, content with the wages they have received, is a measure of injustice and not of justice. Our soldiers know who are their true friends, and are not to be misled by loud claims as their champions. We have reason to believe that the letter from a Pennsylvania soldier, which we copy elsewhere, expresses the gen-

eral sentiment of the veterans on the subject of bounties and bounty bills.

THE young son of LOUIS NAPOLEON, known in BONAPARTIST circles as the "Prince Imperial," has been graduated at the Military Academy, at Woolwich, passing as seventh in order of merit in a class of thirty-three members. His title in the school was the somewhat complicated one of "Corporal his Imperial Highness the Prince Imperial." His rank under examination gave him the option of a commission in either the English Royal Engineers or Royal Artillery, but as he has other ideas than serving in the British Army, he declines the honor of the choice offered. As he was eleven months younger than the average age of the commission class, and suffered under the disadvantage of not being thoroughly conversant with the English language, his taking so high rank as seventh is creditable to his abilities and his application, that is if the examiners were not overawed by his princely position, and they seem to have treated him very fairly. His physical powers are described as developed to a point above the average, for in gymnastics he ranks fifth, and in horsemanship first. In this last accomplishment, indeed, he had the advantage of early training. As corporal the Prince put the cadet battalion through several movements and acquitted himself exceedingly well, giving the words with emphasis and clearness in a fine, commanding voice, with just a tinge of foreign accent. The Duke of Cambridge expressed himself highly satisfied with the manner in which the battalion executed the movements. We give these facts thus particularly because our readers may sometime hear of this youthful NAPOLEON in very trying scenes. He is to pursue his studies privately for some time longer, and it is not unlikely that he will be permitted to be attached to some English regiment for a course of instruction—a permission frequently accorded by the War Office to foreigners. The French *Pays*, commenting on the result of the Prince Imperial's final examination at Woolwich, says: "The prince from a young man now becomes a man and the effective chief of the great party advocating an appeal to the people. From to-day he will wholly devote himself to the direction of the Imperialist policy. The prince who assumes the management of our affairs is the possessor of qualities now necessary to a pretender—intelligence, working power, science, courage and resolution."

THE case of Commander R. W. MEADE, U. S. N., versus the St. Louis Mutual Life Insurance Company—the Mount City Life Insurance Company and WILLIAM A. GREGORY, defendant, came up for a final hearing before Judge PRATT in Brooklyn, on Saturday, March 6th. In course of the trial it was shown by the cross-examination of Mr. LOMAX, Secretary of the St. Louis Life Insurance Company, that at the time of the transfer of the assets of the St. Louis Mutual to the Mount City Life, the reserve of the former was impaired to the extent of \$750,000 and the capital stock of the latter to the extent of \$50,000. It was also shown by the testimony of the defendant GREGORY that out of over three hundred Army and Navy officers who had taken policies in the St. Louis Mutual, all but one hundred and eleven had either allowed their policies to lapse or had taken out commuted policies! The defendants also tried to show that the circulars issued in 1870-71 to Army and Navy officers were unauthorized by the Home Office in St. Louis, and the defendant GREGORY swore that his partner HUSTON was only a clerk in his employ on a salary, which was, however, directly contradicted by Mr. HUSTON in his evidence, who testified not only to the partnership and authority to act for the Home Office, but to the fact that he received a share of the profits in the business as well as a salary. Mr. SHEPPARD HOMANS, the well-known Actuary, appeared on the stand in behalf of the plaintiff Commander MEADE. After arguments by the opposing counsel the case was submitted to the court, which took the papers and reserved its decision. For the plaintiff, Messrs. SEWELL and PIERCE; for the defendant, Ex-Judge EMOTT and Messrs. BURNETT and MERRILL.

THE death of Rear-Admiral CHARLES HENRY BELL recalls to mind the fact that of the little band of survivors of our Naval operations in 1812-18, but

eight now remain—four of the number having participated in two of the greatest battles of that eventful period in the history of our Navy. The survivors and the actions are: Battle of Lake Erie, Sept. 10th, 1813, Captain THOMAS BROWNELL; then Sailing-master of the *Ariel*; now retired, aged 83. Battle of Lake Champlain, Sept. 11th, 1814, Rear-Admiral JOSEPH SMITH, then First Lieutenant of the *Eagle*, and wounded in the battle; now retired, aged 85. Rear-Admiral HIRAM PAULDING, then Midshipman of the *Ticonderoga*; now retired, aged 78. Commodore JOHN H. GRAHAM, then Midshipman of a row-galley and honorably mentioned in dispatches; now retired, aged 80. Action between the *President* and H. B. M. frigate *Belvidera*, June 23d, 1813, Rear-Admiral SILAS H. STRINGHAM, then Midshipman; now retired, aged 78. Commodore CHAUNCEY's operations on Lake Ontario, against the British Squadron, under Sir JAMES YEO, from Sept., 1812, to the spring of 1815: Rear-Admiral C. K. STRIBLING, Midshipman of the *Mohawk*, from April, 1814, to the spring of 1815; now retired, aged 79. Rear-Admiral JOSHUA R. SANDS, Midshipman of the *Madison* and afterwards of the *General Pike*, during all the engagements on the Lake; now retired, aged 80. Commodore CHARLES BOWMAN, Midshipman of the *Jefferson*, April, 1814, to the spring of 1815; now retired, aged 80.

IN common with the other nations of Europe, the Spaniards are beginning to feel the advances of military science, and an officer in the Spanish artillery, Captain-Commandant ZAPATA, has come into the field with a new chronograph, the description of which has just been translated by Commander MARVIN, U. S. N., for the Naval Experimental battery at Annapolis. The object of this chronograph is to determine more than one velocity in the same trajectory of a shot. Three targets are used, connected by wires with local piles, and with a fourth general pile. The passage of the shot cutting certain wires on the targets, beginning with a fine wire across the muzzle of the piece, breaks the circuits successively as in most other chronographs. The indicator consists of a heavy pendulum, passing over the face of a brass arc, graduated by means of a vernier to three hundredths of degrees. In this arc rests a paper, between pieces of hard rubber, and as the broken circuits are re-established successively by stiff springs, the paper is punctured by a spark at the point where the pendulum happens to be. A second recording apparatus, on a separate piece of paper, unrolled by cogwheels like a telegraph indicator, acts as a check on the pendulum indicator, and reveals to which oscillation the spark corresponds.

A detailed description of this chronograph would occupy too much space, besides the difficulty of making it clear without drawings. Great reliability is claimed for it by the inventor in consequence of the absolute weight of the pendulum as compared with more delicate chronographs, which lessens the corrections made necessary by friction and the resistance of the air. The battery power required is 40 Bunsen cups for 1,000 metres of distance, and 20 for 500 metres. The most satisfactory paper to use on the graduated drum is unglazed photographic paper, the hole made being minute but easily distinguished by looking through at a light.

THE following compose the Board of Visitors to West Point for June, 1875, as appointed by the President: General Jacob Ammen, of Maryland; Vice-Admiral Stephen C. Rowan, United States Navy; United States Judge Green, of Maryland, ex-Brigadier-General of Volunteers; William Dowd, of New York, President of the Board of Education of New York City; H. H. Frye, of Newport, R. I.; Prof. Daniel C. Gilman, of California, President of the California University; Prof. J. F. Kellogg, of the Northwestern University, Chicago. The members of the Board appointed on the part of the Senate are: Hon. William B. Allison, United States Senator from Iowa; Hon. M. W. Ransom, United States Senator from North Carolina; and on the part of the House of Representatives, Hon. B. F. Butler, of Massachusetts; Hon. S. H. Hurlbut, of Illinois, and Hon. Thomas J. Creamer, of New York. The board meets at West Point on the 1st of June, to witness the annual examination of all the classes, and is by law required to examine into the actual state of discipline, instruction, police administration, fiscal affairs, financial and other concerns of the institution, and to report the result of their examination thereof to the Secretary of War for the information of Congress.



## CORRESPONDENCE.

The Editor of the ARMY AND NAVY JOURNAL does not hold himself responsible for individual expressions of opinion in communications published under this head. His purpose is to allow the largest freedom of discussion consistent with propriety and good feeling.

## INJUSTICE TO THE NAVY.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

Sir: "What has the Navy had to do with ordnance?" Senator Logan is quoted as saying the above, in opposing a reference to the committee of the bill appropriating \$50,000 for all the past and future use of the Dahlgren patents in ordnance. Had the above remark not come from General Logan, one might have supposed it to be from the General's friend, Mr. Norman Ward. As it is, however, it serves to show what an intelligent chairman the Military Committee of the Senate of these United States possesses.

General Logan is most probably unaware that some of the most notable improvements in guns, gun-carriages, projectiles, powder, and system for manipulating heavy and light ordnance have been made by naval officers, notwithstanding the fact that the Navy possesses no special Ordnance Corps.

General Logan, in common with most Western men, (who, however, sang a different song during the late civil war) is probably opposed to the Navy; being ignorant perhaps of the fact that the prestige of his native land in the eyes of most foreigners, rests almost entirely upon the fame acquired through our naval victories in the Revolution, the war of 1812, and the recent civil war. To come down to recent facts, every intelligent foreigner knows all about Farragut and his achievements. Not one in ten millions ever heard of General Logan or the valiant deeds of the Army of the West. "What has the Navy to do with ordnance?" Shame on you, General Logan! When the troops at Shiloh were cowering under the banks of the Tennessee on that dismal night of April 6, 1862, and the only barrier between the Army and utter destruction by Beauregard rested in the broadsides of a couple of naval gunboats, you (if you were there,) did not probably ask this question. NAVY.

## HISTORY OF THE U. S. MARINE CORPS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal.

Sir: In glancing over Mr. Aldrich's History of the Marine Corps, as drawn from the facts compiled by Captain Cullom, I note several mistakes and inaccuracies which it is hoped may be corrected in subsequent editions, now that attention is drawn to them.

The first of these occurs on page 33, where it is stated that "the United States Marine Corps came into existence before the organization of the Regular Navy."

This is quite a mistake, though perhaps not very material, as both Navy and Marine Corps came into existence almost simultaneously, and it is almost impossible to separate the history of the one from that of the other. The facts, however, are as follows:

A month before the Marine Corps was legislated into existence, the foundations of the Navy were laid.

October 13, 1775, Congress passed a law ordering one vessel of ten guns and another of fourteen guns to be equipped as national cruisers, and sent to the eastward, to intercept the Royal transports with supplies for the British troops.

On the 29th of October a resolution was passed denying to privateers and merchant vessels the right to wear pennants in the presence of Continental ships or vessels of war without the permission of the commanding officer of the latter.

October 30 another law was passed, authorizing the fitting out of two more cruisers, one to carry twenty guns and the other thirty-six guns.

Here are three distinct acts of legislation for the Navy before November 10, 1775, when the Marine Corps was legislated into existence.

Again, as a matter of historical fact, before the Marine Corps was in any way organized, the Continental ships *Hornet*, ten, and *Wasp*, eight, equipped at Baltimore by the Navy Department (then styled the Marine Committee), sailed (November, 1775), to join the fleet of Commodore Esek Hopkins.

A still greater mistake occurs on page 35 of Mr. Aldrich's history, where the expedition against New Providence is set down as occurring in 1777. The expedition was organized in the fall and winter of 1775-76, and sailed February 17, 1776. Commodore Hopkins having taken New Providence, sailed on his return March 17, 1776. He was dismissed from the Service January 2, 1777.

Moreover, the history is entirely silent in regard to the action of April 26, 1776, between Commodore Hopkins' squadron and the British twenty gun ship *Glaugoe*, in which the *Alfred* and *Cabot* lost in killed and wounded a number of men, among them several marines.

Another trifling inaccuracy, in which I feel a personal interest, occurs on page 168. Captain Grayson's two companies were attached to the Naval Battalion of Seamen and Marines, though by General Wool's orders they were on detached service and separated from this battalion for two days, to wit, Monday, and Tuesday, July 13 and 14. On the 15th, however, Captain Grayson reported his command to Lieutenant-Commander Meade, commanding the Naval Battalion, and the whole force of 200 sailors, three pieces of artillery and two companies of marines (as stated in the history), remained under that officer's command until Saturday, July 18, when the battalion was relieved by the Twenty-sixth regiment Michigan Volunteers, Colonel Farrar, and returned to the Navy-yard.

Having a personal knowledge of this last event, I can also bear most cheerful testimony to the fine bear-

ing and discipline of the Marines during that trying week, but do not think it quite fair to the sailors to ignore their services either.

R. W. MEADE, Commander U. S. N.

## THE ARTILLERY SCHOOL.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

Sir: An answer to "A's" last letter in the JOURNAL may not, perhaps, be called for, but I venture to say a word in reply. Our views are evidently opposed to each other, but I give him credit, as I did at the time of his first letter, not of writing in a carping spirit, but with a wish to better the system at the Artillery School. I replied to his letter that the subject might be further discussed, perhaps, through the columns of the JOURNAL. It is a principle among business men, not to abandon an established system until a better one can be substituted. I supposed everybody acknowledged its wisdom. Your correspondent "A." evidently does not, as will be seen from a portion of his letter here quoted, or "in other words, he contends that the present 'manner of instruction' should prevail, in spite of its distastefulness, none other, equally good, being available [the italics are mine], while I take the opposite ground." That is, a poorer system, not distasteful, is better than the present one. I might attempt to show that most any system would be distasteful, but forbear, simply objecting to a change to a worse method, except for better reasons. I believe that, under the present plan, more study will be given than by any other, and, until another is proposed, at least, am forced to hold to that opinion. I should not like to be considered as thinking that an officer of artillery, or of any branch of the Service, had "very little desire for professional improvement, beyond what is drummed into him against his will." We all have the desire, but the incentive, other than self-improvement, being wanting, we go on from day to day, from week to week, accomplishing but little. There are so many things to attract one's attention, and, to those who spend a certain number of hours each day in reading, so many other subjects of more general interest are offered, that too often professional studies are laid aside. Has not "A." had this experience? I am asked "if I believe there are no students who would do their duty, for the sake alone of doing such duty?" I answer, that many officers think the Government has no right to order them to the Artillery School for study; that while one or two of a class would study as hard without as with a system of marks, the majority would not; but that many who devote themselves to study, as they now do, would spend it at the library, or occupy themselves with the many attractions which Old Point as a military station affords. As to the opinion of those who take the most interest in the school coinciding with "A's," I am not convinced. The man who takes the most interest in the school to-day is its present commandant. He has doubtless spent more time than any one else in the corps in considering comparative systems, and no doubt thinks the present one the best. Let "A." or any other officer suggest a better mode of instruction, one which will induce more study, and I venture to say it will be promptly accepted. ARTILLERY.

## OUR ARMY RATIIONS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

Sir: You will please find enclosed a printed letter upon the ration in our Army. It was written with a view of publication in your paper, but as it is very long, I thought it better to have it printed here, as you will have less trouble when in that shape. If your paper should take this matter up, I think it would do a great good.

CHATTANOOGA, TENN., Feb. 25, 1875.

Every officer of the Army knows that taken pro rata the number of desertions in the U. S. Army is far in excess of that of any other army in the world, and great efforts have been made for a number of years to find the cause or causes which lead to this great depletion of our Army. Our inspectors-general are very efficient in the discharge of their duties and have the interests of the Army thoroughly at heart. They make their regular tours of inspections and inquire minutely into the interior arrangements of every company and the administrative departments of every post which they visit; correcting the slightest irregularity that is found. They even seek to find out the cause from the soldiers themselves, why so many of their comrades are continually deserting, and why they are giving up an honorable service with good pay, clothing, and excellent medical attention, for the precarious existence men without trades must lead in civil life. But the cause has never been found out, or if it was, no corrective has ever been applied. Men are still deserting. A soldier does not like to tell the real cause, because he thinks it will somehow reflect on his company officers, and he is afraid of the consequences, for he imagines that if he reported the fact to the inspector, that when he left, the officers would commence to persecute him, and that he would have a hard time to get along. Such I know to be his thoughts on this important point, but in this he is mistaken. Probably not one officer in a thousand could be found who would persecute a soldier for making a truthful report to the inspector. Besides, the officers are not to blame. I believe, with few exceptions, the soldiers get all the food the Government allows them. I served in the Army as an enlisted man, and I think I am well acquainted with the condition of the soldier in the ranks, and while I know that men desert because they imagine that they are persecuted by the officers, or non-commissioned officers, yet for this alone very few men desert. There is very little persecution in the Army. The great cause, however, of desertion in our Army, is the want of sufficient food.

The soldier does not get enough to eat, and the Government does not allow him enough. This will, no doubt, be a surprise to most people, for it is a popular belief that our Army is well fed. This cause, for this reason, has been overlooked by the inspectors, because they believe and assert most positively, that our Army is the best fed in the world. Nothing, it seems, can shake them on this point, and they have so reported it officially, consequently this cause could not be entertained by them. It could not be possible, they think, that the best and most liberal Government in the world would half feed its soldiers. But I think I can prove that such is actually the fact.

The following comparison in the amount of food allowed in our Army and the English army on home service, I am sure will prove conclusively that our Army is not the best fed in the world.

Daily ration of English soldier on home service:

(Ounces avoird.)

Meat (fresh).....	12 oz.
Bread, (white).....	24 oz.
Potatoes.....	16 oz.
Other Vegetables.....	8 oz.
Coffee.....	32 oz.
Tea.....	16 oz.
Sugar.....	1.33 oz.
Milk.....	3.25 oz.
Salt.....	25 oz.
Bulk of ration.....	65.25 oz.

Daily ration of United States soldier:

(Ounces avoird.)

Meat.....	16 oz. average beef and pork.
Flour.....	18 oz. or 18 oz. bread in lieu.
Beans.....	2.4 oz. or 1.6 oz. rice in lieu.
Sugar.....	2.4 oz.
Coffee.....	1.6 oz. or 24 oz. of tea in lieu.
Pepper.....	.04 oz.
Salt.....	.6 oz.
Vinegar.....	.8 oz.
Bulk.....	41.84 oz.

65.25—41.84 equals 23.41 ounces, in favor of the British soldier, daily.

Candles and soap I have excluded from the bulk of our ration, as they are not dietetic substances. By a glance at the above tables, it can be seen at once the difference there is between the ration in the two services; our ration is a little less than two-thirds that of the English. I believe, however, that our ration contains less water in proportion, but the difference cannot be much. Besides our men do not get all of the meat in the above ration, as nearly all of the pork is sold, the proceeds of which have to purchase what little vegetables the soldiers get. Commanding officers generally issue to their commands four days fresh beef and three days pork in the week. Three-fourths of the pork being saved, this will leave about thirteen ounces of meat, daily, to each man.

The ration of sugar and coffee in our Service is large, but not too large for this country, and not quite as large as the English allowance for India. Even the ration for the French soldier is nine ounces more, daily, than in our Service, so that the diminutive Frenchman, lying about in garrison towns, gets more to eat than one of our brave men who is, I might say, continually fighting Indians, and who is probably from twelve to twenty hours daily either on foot or on horseback, exposed to the inclemencies of the seasons, and very possibly without shelter at night, except what his blanket affords him. The allowance of food in our Army is a matter of the greatest importance. It should be well cooked and cared for, and a dietary table should be established in each company, and as much variety given as possible. I would recommend that the following list of articles be made the established ration in our Army, which will bring it up to within an ounce or so of the established ration in the English army:

(Ounces avoird.)

Meat, 16 ounces, average of beef and pork.
Flour, 22 ounces, or 24 ounces of bread, or 18 ounces of hard bread.
Beans or peas, 2.4 ounces or 1.6 ounces of rice or hominy in lieu.
Potatoes or onions, 16 ounces or other good vegetables in lieu.
Coffee, 1.6 ounces or 24 ounces of tea in lieu.
Sugar, 2.4 ounces.
Vinegar, 32 gill.
Candles, 3 ounces.
Soap, .06 ounces.
Salt, .6 ounces.
Pepper, .04 ounces.
Molasses, 16 gills.
64 ounces nearly, leaving out candles and soap.

In the above ration I have increased the flour four ounces, which will easily give 24 ounces of good bread, and allow enough of savings to pay the expense of baking. The bread as now established is not enough; more complaints of a want of a sufficiency of bread are heard than of any other part of the ration.

I have also added a pound of potatoes or onions, or other good vegetables in lieu. In our Army there is no provision whatever made for vegetables, and unless a portion of the ration is saved and sold and the proceeds applied to the purchase of these articles, none can be given the men. This is wrong, a regular ration of vegetables should be issued daily, if possible. The other parts of the ration are too small now, and should not be taken away. Experience has proved that the present allowances of soap is too little. I have therefore increased it to six pounds per 100 men. Molasses also should be issued as part of the ration; it is necessary. None of this ration should be sold. I am certain the men can eat it all, and they will feel a great deal happier than now; and I know of no better way to keep men from deserting than to make them happy. If we only can attain this, if we can make them pleased with their situation in life, I am certain that desertions in our Army will be reduced over three-fourths. The important duty of every officer is to labor to make the men under his command contented with their lot in life, and contentment in the Army is by no means incompatible with the strictest discipline; in fact, without discipline no true contentment can exist; it is the same in every walk of life. This cannot be done, however, if men suffer with the pangs of hunger. First



they must have enough to eat; everything else is secondary. As I said before, the ration is now too small; and it is made much smaller by the savings on meat, sugar, and coffee. I have very rarely, in my whole experience in the Army, drank what I would call a good cup of coffee in a soldier's mess. The Government allows enough of this article, I admit, but a large portion of it is saved for other purposes. No coffee should be saved; it is barely enough now.

I think I can better illustrate the amount of food given in our Army by taking the exact amount of water-free food allowed in each of the principal European armies, and compare it with our own, giving the three great elements of nutrition:

ARMIES.	ALIMENTARY	STARCHES	FATS	TOTAL
	Ounces.	Ounces.	Ounces.	Ounces.
English.....	4.250	18.541	1.665	24.456
United States.....	3.838	18.054	1.548	23.440
French.....	4.31	18.12	1.328	23.758
Austrian.....	3.915	17.065	1.176	22.156
Prussian, in garrison.....	3.15	11.75	.83	15.73
Prussian, in march.....	4.23	15.02	1.15	20.40

The above tables, so far as they relate to foreign armies, are taken from "Parke's Practical Hygiene." I have calculated our own ration, and I may be slightly in error, if so, I hope enough interest will be taken by those more competent than I am, to set me right.

Most of the above rations are increased in war time. I notice, also, that a spirit ration is allowed in nearly all the foreign armies. I remember it was, also, given in our Army on certain occasions, during our late war, but I never knew any good to come of it, except probably in a case of fatigue. But a good cup of coffee, tea, or cocoa, is much better in a case of this kind. Some officers believe that it makes men brave, and reckless; the latter I admit, but it is not recklessness we require in battle, but calmness, discipline, and intelligence. The great improvements in our fire-arms demand these qualities in a very high degree. The day is gone by when a reckless bayonet charge can be executed with success unless on a weak or barbarous foe.

Dr. Lyon Playfair has calculated after a consideration of many diets, that it will take 21.1-5 ozs. of water-free food to keep up the mechanical force necessary to carry on the internal works of the body. Dr. Parkes, however, says, 18½ ozs. will be sufficient when the body is nearly at rest, and that 23 ozs. will be required when undergoing moderate exercise. The doctors differ somewhat, but it will be seen by their views that our men are getting less food than is necessary to carry on the functions of the body, and prevent loss of strength. A great many of our men purchase food, and in this way, I suppose, they make up for the smallness of the ration. But the fact of having to purchase any food out of their pay has an injurious effect on the standing, and discipline of the Army.

The ration of the Prussian army in time of peace is the smallest that I know of, but the soldier purchases extra food, and being generally stationed near his home, he receives some from there. In war and on the march it is increased. It may seem strange, but it is nevertheless the fact, that some companies in our Army live much better than others, I cannot, however, undertake to explain here, how it is. The dietary table established for use in our hospitals, is an excellent one. The full diet allowed by it would seem to be enough for any man under such circumstances. I wish our men on active duty were allowed as much. The Government of the United States in dealing with the food of our Army should take into consideration that our mechanics and laborers, from whom our Army is recruited, are much better fed than the same classes in any European country. The difference in this respect is so great as to surprise strangers on their first arrival in this country. The young man who joins the army in England, France or Austria, finds his condition so far as his food is concerned at least improved. In our Army the reverse takes place, and the difference is so great as to disappoint and disgust the young soldier. The above tables show that the English, French and Austrian soldiers get 32, 29 and 20 per cent. respectively more food than one in our Army, and that the Prussian in garrison gets 18 per cent. less, and on the march and field days 10 per cent. more.

The ration that I recommend for our Army is merely a suggestion, and is susceptible of improvement. The medical officers of the Army are the most competent to prescribe the size and kind of ration. I hardly think that a ration suitable for our Southern States is well adapted for Alaska or any of our North Western Territories. The quantity of food might be fixed, but the component parts should be variable, so as to suit every section of our great country.

UT. PROSIM.

### INEXCUSABLE CARELESSNESS IN NAVAL RECORDS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: Some heartless and irreverent wit has defined "Military Glory"—"To be killed in battle and have your name spelled wrong in despatches," and an entry in the last Navy Register (just issued) would seem to confirm the wisdom of the author of this definition.

Commander Charles L. Franklin, a gallant and meritorious officer who died at his post in Pensacola Navy-yard, during the recent severe epidemic of yellow fever, has the honor of figuring in the death list and index of the "Official Register" of his country as Samuel L. Franklin.

A mistake of this kind is simply inexcusable, but

what makes the matter worse is that mistakes in the Register are becoming yearly more common. In the last list the name of Commander W. T. Sampson was altogether omitted, and the historian of the Naval Medical Corps may search through these annual volumes until he is black in the face before he discovers what ever became of quite a well known gentleman, the late Surgeon John Rudenstein, U. S. Navy.

DISGUSTIBUS.

### THE STAFF CORPS.

To the Editor of the Army and Navy Journal:

SIR: The notice of the new bill to fix and reduce the Adjutant-General's Department, which says "it will reduce the expenses of the Army about ten thousand dollars," in the interest of truth should be corrected.

It adds one colonel, two lieutenant-colonels, and one major to the existing corps, with an additional cost for their pay and emoluments of several thousand dollars annually.

The title of the bill is a misnomer, and liable to deceive. If intentional, it is unbecoming the dignity of those perpetrating it.

It is pertinent to ask, why in time of profound peace, while each Congress cuts off a portion of the fighting Army, does it add to the rank of the staff corps. While it discontinues the higher places of the men who fought the war, does it increase the dignity of those officers who did not fight the war? If they have since earned this extra rank, or if the Service requires it, then it is just. If not, it is an imposition upon the country, and an insult to the fighting officers.

In an article headed "Injustice to the men who fought," the New York Tribune says editorially:

A question of some magnitude now presented itself:—so to dispose of those who still remained in service in the reduced establishment that fairness and justice should be the governing rule. Two of the prominent officers were given rank higher than they had ever held as volunteers. All the remainder were given one, two, three, or four grades lower than their war rank. There was no help for this, and, although severe, no complaint was made. There were fourteen positions of general officers retained, whither officers of the line who had stepped down from their high places earned in battle could in course of time be again elevated. It was also thought best that the eight positions of general officers at the heads of the Staff Departments should be maintained during the service of the war incumbents, and that their rank should then lapse back to colonels.

But what has Congress since done? For the line it has already abolished three of the general positions, and has also provided for the abolition of two more on the expiration of service of the present incumbents, leaving only nine general positions. It has reduced the sixty regiments to forty by consolidation, thus retarding the promotion in the line at least ten years.

In the mean time orders have been issued prohibiting officers of the Army from communicating with members of Congress upon military matters. But the staff being a part of the War Department largely represented in Washington, the order practically does not reach them, and their social relations give them

every facility for securing personal legislation, and so guiding all Army legislation as to serve their own interests. This is very unfair to the line, is enlarging the premium on non-combatant service, is constantly adding to the power and preponderance of the already top-heavy staff, and is turning the heads of all the young officers in the Army to seeking these easy places.

The footings of the annual appropriation bills have been completed. They show a reduction from last year of \$1,714,454. The same bills year before last aggregated \$201,389,176.65. The amounts of the bills passed a year ago and in the session just closed are given below, and afford opportunity for interesting comparison:

	Fiscal Year ending June, 1875.	Fiscal Year ending June, 1876.
Post Office.....	\$35,754,091.00	\$37,584,360.00
Pension.....	29,880,097.00	30,000,000.00
Sundry Civil.....	26,088,612.84	26,682,682.70
Army.....	27,788,500.00	27,833,830.00
Legislative, Executive, etc.....	20,613,880.80	19,866,229.99
River and Harbor.....	5,243,000.00	6,662,078.07
Naval.....	16,818,946.20	17,001,306.40
Indian.....	5,699,108.30	5,074,554.55
Consular and Diplomatic.....	3,405,404.00	1,374,985.00
Fortifications.....	904,000.00	882,000.00
Military Academy.....	339,835.00	384,740.00
Deficiency.....	3,785,342.36	3,009,496.62
Total.....	\$177,018,719.43	\$175,304,365.33

"MISS GRUNDY" writes to the *Daily Graphic* from Washington: As is usual during Lent, when many persons decline to attend the theatre or opera, readings and charity entertainments have been in order. Of the latter one of the most successful and agreeable was given by Mrs. General Wallen and her daughters on the 22d, and took the form of a Martha Washington tea party, with the added pleasure of a dance. Mrs. Wallen and her family were for several years residents of New York, and there Miss Jessie Wallen made her debut last winter. Miss Marie was one of the debutantes of Washington this season. Both young ladies have been acknowledged belles, and deservedly so, as they are both handsome and intelligent. Part of the proceeds of the tea-party was divided between two Episcopal churches here, but the larger proportion is being used for the direct relief of cases of want which Mrs. Wallen has herself sought out. Many suffering from cold and hunger have had cause to bless the ladies through whose efforts a fund was raised for their relief.

A PRESS despatch from Washington, March 10, says: Lieutenant-General Sheridan arrived in Washington this morning, and early in the day called at the White House, where he had a long interview with the President. General Sheridan received a great number of calls this evening from Army officers and others. Having transacted his business with the President, he will leave Washington to-morrow to return to New Orleans, first visiting Chicago. He will remain in the South as long as he deems his presence there necessary.

At a stated meeting of the Massachusetts Commandery of the Military Order, held Wednesday evening, February 3, First Lieutenant Copley Amory, late Fourth U. S. Cavalry, was elected a Companion of the Order of the first class.

Table showing the Compensation at Various Periods per Annum of Officers and Clerks of the Executive Departments.

	Acts Sept. 1789.	1792.	Acts March 2, 1799, Feb. & March, 1817, Jan. 23, 1818.	Acts Feb. 20, 1819, May 20, 1830, July 9, 1832, July 2, 1836, Jan. 20, 1843, 1846, Jan. 12, 1848, March 3, 1849, Sept. 30, 1850.	Acts March, 1853, 1862, June 3, 1864, 1865, 1866, 1869, 1872.	Present compensation, 1875.	When present compensation was fixed.	Increase in 55 years.	Proposed increase by H. R. 2978.
Secretary of State.....	3,500	5,000	6,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	21y's ago	\$2,000 to 4,500	
Sec'y of the Treasury.....	3,500	5,000	6,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	21y's ago		
Secretary of War.....	3,000	4,500	6,000	8,000	8,000	8,000	21y's ago		
Sec'y of the Navy.....	1,500	3,000	4,500	6,000	8,000	8,000	21y's ago		
Attorney-General.....	2,000	3,000	4,000	6,000	8,000	8,000	21y's ago		
Postmaster-General.....	1,500	2,400	3,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5 years ago	1,500	
Asst. Sec'y Treasury.....	1,500	2,400	3,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5 years ago	1,500	
Comptroller.....	1,500	2,400	3,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5 years ago	1,500	
Second Comptroller.....	1,500	2,400	3,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5 years ago	1,500	
Comm'r of Customs.....	1,500	2,400	3,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5 years ago	1,500	
First Auditor.....	1,500	2,400	3,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5 years ago	1,500	
2, 3, 4, 5th Aud's (each).....	1,500	2,400	3,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5 years ago	1,500	
Sixth Auditor.....	1,500	2,400	3,500	5,000	5,000	5,000	5 years ago	1,500	
Register.....	1,250	1,750	2,400	3,000	4,000	4,000	2 years ago	1,000	
Do.....	2,000	2,400	3,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	8 years ago	3,500	
Treasurer.....	2,000	2,400	3,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	8 years ago	3,500	
Solicitor.....	2,000	2,400	3,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	8 years ago	3,500	
Commis. of Pensions.....	2,000	2,400	3,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	8 years ago	3,500	
Commis. of Ind. Affairs.....	2,000	2,400	3,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	8 years ago	3,500	
Com. of the G. L. Office.....	2,000	2,400	3,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	8 years ago	3,500	
Asst. Postmaster-Gen.....	2,000	2,400	3,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	8 years ago	3,500	
Compt. of Currency.....	2,000	2,400	3,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	8 years ago	3,500	
Commis. of Int. Rev.....	2,000	2,400	3,000	4,000	5,000	5,000	8 years ago	3,500	
Chief clerks of Depts.....	800	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	21y's ago	200	800
Chief clerk of Compt.....	800	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	21y's ago	200	800
Chief clerk of Auditor.....	800	1,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	2,000	21y's ago	200	800
All other clerks (each not exceeding).....	500	500	500	500	500	500	21y's ago	400	400

\* \$3,500, March 3, 1863. † \$6,500, July 23, 1866. ‡ \$3,000, April 22, 1854. § \$4,000, July 1, 1862.



## THE NATIONAL GUARD.

**THE NEW TARGETS.**—The discussion in the last meeting of the Board of Directors of the National Rifle Association as to a change in the targets and system of marking in use at Creedmoor has developed the fact that there are differences of opinion on the advisability of the step among the directors themselves, and leaves the matter open to argument. So long as the Association was a unit on the subject, even in appearance, our desire to secure uniformity in rifle practice in the United States, rather than to insist upon change in minor matters, forbids the advocacy in our columns of any system other than the one already in use at Creedmoor. Now that the matter is opened to discussion, and especially in view of the near approach of the International Return Match, the conditions are altered. Uniformity itself demands a change in the marking at Creedmoor. Our riflemen are to contend at Dublin on the new Wimbledon targets, with the new marking, and it will be a matter of vital necessity to familiarize them with those targets in advance. Otherwise, the change in appearance, the change in scoring, the change in the accuracy required, may prove very injurious, especially to the lower-scoring members of the team, always the easiest to demoralize. For the convenience of the great public, who, judging from the past, will take an intense interest in the prospects of the coming match, it is well that there should be a means of ready comparison, during preliminary practice, between our scores and those of the Irish, English, and Scotch teams. Last year, while the Irish scores before the match were published, few people understood them, and none but experts were able to compare them, and then not directly, with those of our own team at practice. Made as they were on a different system, little understood, there was no means of direct comparison. This year we must change all this. When the scores on both sides of the Atlantic are on the same system, comparison is easy. At present, England and all the English speaking colonies have adopted the new Wimbledon system, as they did the old, not questioning its expediency or in expediency, but for the sake of uniformity and comparison of excellence. The United States must not be left behind in the race on account of a prejudice. We none of us like to change our ways, but the world compels us to do so. Having started on the Wimbledon system, we shall probably have to follow it out, as it changes from year to year. We may not be at the end of the changes yet. We began with a square bull's-eye, counting 4, a centre counting 3, an outer counting 2, and we are used to it. We know the disks by heart, white, red, and black, and understand them. The new targets change all this. Hereafter, our bull's-eye will be round and count 5, the next circle or centre will count 4, the next or "inner" counts 3, the last or outer 2 points, respectively. The disks will have one addition, that for the "inner," [a black ring round a white disk.] The highest possible score in points will be five times instead of four times the number of shots. In all this we shall follow Wimbledon, just as we use Roman letters instead of phonographic signs, for convenience, because they are in general use elsewhere. Phonetic spelling and phonography might be more philosophical, but we prefer what we have been taught, and what every one else uses.

As regards the desirability of the change, that question was settled in England, after a fierce dispute, in favor of the new targets. They have one great advantage, that ties are almost an impossibility when the additional circle is used. The controlling cause and occasion of ties, especially on our present first class targets at Creedmoor, is the disproportionate size of the centre, and the great difference in length between the sides and the diagonals of a large square. Men count the same for shots essentially unequal. In the first class targets, it is perfectly possible for a man whose shot is four feet from the centre of the bull's-eye to count 3, while his neighbor, who is only three feet and one inch from the same spot, counts 2; and shots varying from 19 to 49 inches from the same spot may all count the same. In the new Wimbledon targets these anomalies are banished. The shot nearest the centre of the target makes the best score as a rule. The time may come when the enormous bull's-eye of the first class target may be further subdivided; and when it does come, the nation that leads the way to the finest shooting will compel the rest to follow or be left behind. The new targets conduce to finer shooting. Their only limit is in height, to six feet, the assumed height of a man. They possess the good points of the old—rapid marking—and something just as valuable, accuracy of judgment. The fact that they are advocated by Captain Fulton, the champion long range shot of the world, is only another point in favor of that gentleman, and we are glad that the weight of his word is found on the side of progress.

**ARMORIES.**—Amongst other questions which are now agitating the National Guard of New York State, especially the First Division, that of proper and commodious armories is one that has at last assumed gigantic proportions. The peculiar shape of Manhattan Island, with its consequent scarcity of room, has raised property in the Island to an extravagant height, and the rent of armories for the city militia has become a very serious item of expense in the city government. There are troubles connected with the armories of most of the regiments. The Seventh has been crying for more room, for a long time, and has been unable to get it. The Seventy-first is in trouble about its armory. An offer is made to that regiment of an isolated and unsafe building in Ninth avenue, and its officers are naturally averse to depositing State property, for which they are responsible, in any such place, hoping to retain their old armory which is offered them at a reduced rent. The leases of the armories of the Twelfth regiment and the cavalry and artillery commands are all more or less in litigation, and the State property is constantly endangered thereby. The armory troubles of the Second Brigade must be fresh in the minds of many of our readers, causing, as they did the cashiering of field officers and the enforced resignation of a brigadier. Perhaps the only regiment in the city that can be said to be thoroughly satisfied with its armory is the Eighth; and there the extravagant outlay on furniture and decorations, made under the old Tweed regime, is obviously as unnecessary as the poverty stricken and unsafe condition of armories occupied by less fortunate regiments. The amount of money wasted on armory rents in New York ought to supply ample accommodations for the handful of troops which we call a division, but the fact remains that some are starved while others are surfeited, and that all are dissatisfied. The state of things is conceded by all to be bad. The only dispute seems to be as to the most effective remedy.

In the Second Division, in Brooklyn, that remedy has been found in a very simple manner. The two brigades that compose that division are supplied with armory accommodation, ample for all needs of the commands, at an expense less than that of the reduced rent offered to be taken for the armory of a single regiment in New York city. The whole armory expenses of the Second Division do not now amount to twenty thousand dollars yearly for two brigades, while the three brigades of New York city are badly lodged at a cost approaching a quarter of a million, more or less. This disproportion in cost is something amazing, and leads

us directly to the question, cannot New York follow the lead of Brooklyn and do as well at a similar cost.

The difference in price of real estate in the two cities is not sufficient to answer the question in the negative. There are parts of Brooklyn that approach New York in price, and the average value of real estate in the city is not double that of Brooklyn. The reason is found in a few words. In Brooklyn there are very few armories, and they are large enough to hold several commands. Moreover, they are purposely located in the cheapest spots conveniently accessible. In the city we have an undue number of armories; they are small, and they are too often located on the most expensive locations in the Island. An obvious remedy for all this is to reduce the number of armories, retaining only one to each brigade, if possible; to establish them in the cheapest instead of the dearest locations; to build them with a sole view to security and convenience, and to abolish the paying for extravagant decorations, leaving all such matters to the individual efforts of the companies and regiments themselves. If, in addition to this, the number of brigades in the city be reduced to two, by the disbandment or consolidation of weak commands, the rank and file now in the First Division might be saved to it, and only the elite of the officers retained. That the latter would be a blessing, there are few to dispute. That something like it will be done in the course of the present year is almost certain. The sooner the better.

**NATIONAL RIFLE ASSOCIATION.**—A meeting of the Executive and Range Committees of the Association was held on Monday, March 8, at 99 Nassau street, in the office of Colonel Gildersleeve. General Shaler took the chair, there being present Generals Woodward and McMahon, Colonels Gildersleeve and Wingate, and Captain Fulton. It was determined that the spring meeting of the Association should be held at Creedmoor on Thursday, May 27, to extend to Saturday, 29th, with five regular matches and plenty of pool shooting.

On the 27th will be shot, first the Director's, second the Sportsmen's Match.

On the 28th the Leech Cup will be contested.

On the 29th will take place two Military Matches, one at short range standing, one at five and six hundred yards.

The details as at present contemplated are as follows:

**I. DIRECTOR'S MATCH.**—Open only to directors and honorary directors of the N. R. A. Distance, 200 yards. Position, standing. Rounds, 5, with two sighting shots. Rifle, any within rules. Entrance, \$1. Prize, gold badge, to be worn for one year.

**II. SPORTSMEN'S MATCH.**—Open to members of the N. R. A. Distance, 200 yards. Position, standing. Rounds, 7, with two sighting shots. Rifle, any within rules. Entrance fee and prizes not yet settled.

**III.—LEECH CUP.**—Open to all. Distances, 800, 900, and 1,000. Position, any. Rounds, 15 each distance. Rifle, any within the rules. No sighting shots allowed, and no practice at any range by competitors on day of match. Entrance and lower prizes not settled.

**IV. MILITARY MATCH.**—Short range. Open to all members, and to National Guardsmen of New York State, in uniform. Distance, 200 yards. Position, standing. Rounds, 7, with two sighting shots. Rifle, any military. Entrance, \$1. Prizes not yet settled.

**V. MILITARY LONG RANGE MATCH.**—Open to the same competitors as Number IV. Distances, 500 and 600 yards. Position, any. Rounds, 7 each range, with two sighting shots each range. Rifle, any military. Entrance fee and prizes not yet settled.

Besides these there will be four pool targets constantly at work, these having proved the most popular feature of all matches at all ranges. Prizes and programme have been referred to the Secretary and to the Chairmen of the Prize and Finance Committees with power.

The only fresh news about the Committee on the International Match is that A. T. Stewart, Esq., has subscribed \$500 towards the expenses of the team, and that everything promises to go off swimmingly.

**SIXTY-NINTH INFANTRY.**—This regiment has not done well during the winter for its pumbers, and the Irish-American citizen soldiers of New York are much to blame for it. The Sixty-ninth has 556 men on its rolls, and on Monday night, March 8, when the regiment paraded for battalion drill, all the men turned out were only enough to make six companies of twelve files. Four companies were consolidated, two for having no officers present, and two more for coming with a total of only thirteen men between them. This is bad, and the Sixty-ninth ought to be ashamed of it. An ordinary skeleton demoralized crowd, like some we could name, might not be blamed so much, but the Sixty-ninth ought to know better. If officers cannot bring out their men and have full ranks, they ought to resign and give place to those who can. It would be hard in New York city if enough men could not be found to officer the Sixty-ninth with such a record as that regiment now possesses. With this ridiculously small command Lieutenant-Colonel Dempsey undertook to drill the battalion at 8:45 P. M. Adjutant Duffy has very much improved. He did his part of the business well. Colonel Cavanagh came in late, and allowed his Lieutenant-Colonel to conduct the drill, himself officiating as major, for the fun of the thing. We must say that, numbers apart, the drill was the best the Sixty-ninth has had this winter. Indeed we are not sure if any other regiment has beat them much. They seemed to be on their mettle, resolved to prove that the JOURNAL was wrong, and that there were regiments besides the Seventh and Twelfth that could drill in the arsenal. The routine was the same as in all the arsenal battalion drills, beginning with the movements by column of fours, and the ployments of close columns, breaking again by fours, and a final wheel into line. All these movements were good. The marching was accurate, the distances were perfect, and the whole regiment in excellent trim. The column of companies with all its wheelings was excellent; the close column movements from and to line of battle were good; the movements by the flanks of subdivisions were well-timed and accurate. After a second series of ployments and deployments Colonel Cavanagh assumed the command, and executed right of divisions to the rear into column very well. The close in mass, taking of distance, breaking by companies and wheeling into line, continuing the march, were the most perfect of any, eliciting loud and well deserved applause. The only faulty movement was the formation of line from column of fours by two movements, which was balked by a misunderstood order. The manual of arms concluded the drill, and concluded it well, too, for the Sixty-ninth has made marvellous improvement in the manual.

**FIFTY-FIFTH INFANTRY.**—This command drilled at the arsenal on the night of Tuesday, March 9, Lieutenant-Colonel Schilling being in command. The usual delay was experienced in taking and giving details, and it was 8:40 P. M. before the line was formed, although the details were sent from one company to another, instead of being brought to the adjutant and distributed by him. The battalion was equalized into six companies of twelve files front. In forming line, one company marched directly in front of the markers, and it was discovered that there were four companies on the left of the said markers, and the other two on the right. The line was then formed a second time,

causing another delay of ten minutes; after which it was found that there were no colors nor anything to represent them. After a further delay of some minutes, one of the general guides was taken for a color bearer. It was therefore 8:55 P. M. before a single movement was executed. The first command was fours right, succeeded by a march in column of fours. This was somewhat indifferently executed. Then followed a march in column of companies, which, everything considered, was fairly done. When, however, the order was given "Left into line wheel," there were two broad gaps left in the centre and right, entirely isolating one company from the others. This was accompanied by the crowding together of the two left companies. The next movement was column of fours—break from right to march to the left. This was fair, but on coming into line by fours left, there was another gap. These were repeated two or three times, as was also break from left to march to right, each succeeding time somewhat better, but always more or less distance being lost on forming line, except, perhaps, the last time. After a short rest, during which there was some straggling, the movements were forming close columns of divisions, both to the left and on the left. In these movements, which were repeated a number of times, one or more divisions always faced in the wrong direction; and in deploying, the guides never once inverted their pieces. There were some other movements between the ployments and deployments, such as change direction by the right flank, and division right wheel—the first well done, the last very poorly. The last movements executed were rear open order, and close order, ending with a few minutes exercise in the manual of arms, in the main fairly performed. We think the disposition of the men of the Fifty-fifth is to do right, but it has to be insisted on by the officers. We remarked that the printed notice in the stairway of the arsenal prohibiting smoking was disregarded by some of the men, and some spectators. We are very glad, however, to record that the Fifty-fifth did much better than in the past, and wish them success in the future. Their officers must study the tactics more.

**FIRST INFANTRY.**—The ball of this command took place on Tuesday evening, March 2, at Irving Hall. The assemblage was very agreeable, though by no means a large one—the balls that take place during Lent almost always showing a falling off. This fault, however, was by no means a serious one, as when there is a great crowd half the pleasure is lost. The dancing commenced shortly after 10 o'clock, and we must admit that the music, the selection of dances, and the dancing itself were really admirable. The programme was prepared with a discrimination seldom seen on such occasions, there being about the proper proportion of square and round dances. After every four dances there was a promenade to vary the pleasure of the evening, and we could not but compare the programme of the First favorably with that of another "crack" regiment, at whose reception this winter, among other omissions, there was not a single waltz. The music was by the regimental band, and was generally of that stirring kind that makes it an aggravation to sit still while the dance is going on. The ladies' dresses, of all the fashionable colors and fabrics corresponding with the beauty of the wearers, blended with the gorgeous uniforms and trappings of the regiment, and mingling with those of other regiments, made the scene a very animated and splendid one. We noticed among other uniforms those of the Old Guard, Eighth, Ninth, Thirteenth, Eighty-fourth, and Seventy-ninth regiments. The dancing was kept up to a late—or rather an early—hour. Among those present we noticed Colonel Sterry, Lieutenant-Colonel Van Wyck, and Major King, of the Sixth; Colonel Van Wagener, of the "Sunday Mercury;" and Captain Tyrone (an officer in the late war), now of the Old Guard; Captain Cottman, of the Ninth; Lieutenant Campbell, of the Eighty-fourth, and Lieutenant Hofele, of the Eighth. We also noticed a number of ex-officers of the National Guard who were in civil dress. There were a few of the Zouave uniforms visible, bringing back recollections of that famous corps of whose members the First is largely composed, and with the recollections, the names of Hawkins, Kimball, Jardine, Gadsden, and others, some of whom laid down their lives in the field, and some who now carry the scars of more than one bloody fray. All the arrangements of the ball were well carried out by the officers; Lieutenant-Colonel Bourke, Captain William P. Walton, and Adjutant Seymour being noticeably attentive to the same.

**SEVENTH INFANTRY.**—Company H, of this regiment, Captain George Smith, had a drill at the arsenal on Friday evening, March 5, and despite the inclemency of the weather turned out a front of thirty-six files, with a surplus private or two in the rank of file-closers. It is really a satisfaction and a pleasure to see a company worthy of the name occasionally, and when the drill and discipline is up to the mark as well, as it was on this occasion, we can most cheerfully record the facts. The first part of the drill was devoted to marching in columns of fours, on right and left into line; fours left and right; then another long march in column of fours; all of which were steady and precise. During this march in fours the command was given fours left about, and each four wheeled like a gate and marched in the opposite direction without a jam. Then followed on right and on left into line, performed beautifully. These same movements were then repeated in single rank, and were as well done as in double. The company then advanced in line in single rank with scarce a bend in the line. The next manoeuvres were right and left front into line, very well executed; both these movements were then repeated in double time, with more steadiness than we have seen elsewhere this winter. The succeeding movements were mostly platoon exercises, in which the only fault was in the wheeling, and that was mostly confined to the second platoon, which in wheeling exhibited a concave front, although it was smaller by four files than the first platoon. The wheeling of the latter was in the main good. After this, right by twos and right by file were well performed. The manual was then practised for some minutes very creditably, the only error visible being that three or four of the men once came to a right shoulder instead of a support, and that one of the file-closers committed the common fault of changing bayonets, but this was not, we think, done by a non-commissioned officer. The manual in loading and firing was noticeably well done. The company fired by company and by file, the first being especially well performed. The fixing and unfixing of bayonets were faultless, the unfixing being done by one loud click instead of the clatter so often heard. The exercises closed by a drill in left front into line in single rank, and the same movement, forming into double rank from single. The company when in line occupied the width of the room one way, with only space enough left for three or four files more, and when in single rank occupied fully three-quarters the length of the room.

**A MERITED TRIBUTE.**—The order which we print below, is a well merited tribute to an old and faithful public servant, whom the vicissitudes of politics have at last deprived of a position which he had always filled with capacity and fidelity. It reflects honor alike on the subject, and the signer of the order itself. We sincerely hope that the day is not far distant, when all the States in the Union will follow the example of the General Government by making their military



establishments permanent from base to summit, and then we may hope to have perfect State troops. The order is as follows:

GENERAL HEADQUARTERS STATE OF NEW YORK,  
ADJUTANT-GENERAL'S OFFICE, ALBANY, March 1, 1875.  
Special Order No. 19.

Brigadier-General John B. Stonehouse, Assistant Adjutant-General State of New York, having tendered his resignation, the same is hereby accepted, and he is at his own request honorably discharged from said office.

In accepting the resignation of General Stonehouse, who has served the State most faithfully for many years, it is but a simple act of justice to give expression in a formal manner to the high appreciation of those services by all whom he assisted in the discharge of his duties as Assistant Adjutant-General, and especially by the undersigned, who has been thus associated with him officially for over four years.

By order of the Commander-in-Chief.

FRANKLIN TOWNSEND, Adjutant-General.

May the present State administration, when its turn comes to retire, be able to leave behind it in the National Guard, as good a record as that bequeathed by the administration of 1873-4.

General Orders No. 3, Adjutant-General's Office, Albany, March 1, officially notifies the State that Alfred H. Taylor has been appointed Assistant Adjutant-General of the State of New York, vice Brigadier-General J. B. Stonehouse, resigned. This appointment needs no comment at our hands. The new Assistant Adjutant-General has been known and respected in the National Guard for almost as long a period as the retiring incumbent. His uniform courtesy and attention to duty has been felt and appreciated by all who have ever had business in the Adjutant-General's office, and if we must needs lose the well-remembered face of our old friend Stonehouse, we are all glad that the equally welcome face of Taylor has been chosen to replace it.

**SECOND BRIGADE.**—The long suspense is over at last in this organization, and on Monday, March 8, Colonel Frederick Villmar was elected Brigadier-General. Thus ends the adjournment farce, which has been prolonged for so many months. Now that the election is over, we are able to say what etiquette forbids while it was still uncertain. General Villmar is a good choice, and promises to make an efficient general officer. His means are ample and his disposition generous, while he possesses the no less necessary advantage of a good military education. He first served as an officer in the troubles of 1848, in Cassel, being successively commandant of the garrisons of Elberfeld and Dusseldorf. In 1850 he came to America, and served as Adjutant of the Eleventh, his late regiment, in 1861. On the return of the Eleventh he went on General Sigel's staff, and subsequently on that of General Hooker. After the close of the war, General Shaler, in 1868, put him on his staff, and from thence he went back to be Colonel of his old regiment, the Eleventh. On Tuesday evening the regiment came round after drill with the band to serenade the General, and met with the most truly hospitable reception we have ever seen on such an occasion. General Villmar deserves his honors, and long may he wear them. Lieutenant-Colonel Umbekat, Major Sussman, Adjutant Wenner, and all the company officers, staff, and non-commissioned staff of the Eleventh were entertained by General Villmar after the serenade.

**SIXTH INFANTRY.**—The drill of this much-abused regiment at the Germania Rooms, 291 Bowers, on Tuesday evening, March 9, was really a reproach to the administration of the National Guard of the State of New York. Not to the regiment itself, however. That did as well as could be expected. But what could any regiment do, crowded into a room thirty-five feet square? To this state has the system pursued with our city armories brought at least one organization. For over a year the Sixth has had no armory, and no place to drill or keep its arms. That it has held together at all shows strong vitality. At last a meeting place is secured, and what a meeting place! Not large enough for a single company to drill in, and the Sixth is recommended to go to work. Under these very depressing circumstances Colonel Van Wyck does all that is possible. He drills the men in the manual and in marching round the little room in column of fours. Nothing else could be done in the space available. But it is clear that the Sixth cannot improve where it is. Either the State ought to disband it, on the pretext of economy, or a decent armory and drill room ought to be provided for it. As it is, the position of the ill-used Sixth is a shame and disgrace to the State, and unless something is done soon, there will be no Sixth left. That the regiment was able to turn out as strong as it did, is an honor to the men, and shows a commendable spirit.

**ELEVENTH INFANTRY.**—The several companies of this command will assemble at the regimental armory in fatigue uniform for drill and instruction as follows: Companies A, B, C, E, and F, on Tuesday, the 9th, and Tuesday, the 23d inst; Companies D, G, H, I, and K, on Tuesday, the 16th, and Tuesday, the 30th inst. Roll-call of companies at 7:45 o'clock P. M. The Drum-Major will detail four drummers to be present at each drill. First sergeants will deliver a list of all the absentees to the Adjutant after every drill. Geo. Gutheil has been commissioned as Second Lieutenant of Company I. Joseph Luroh has been elected Second Lieutenant of Company D, vice Charles Nagel, resigned.

#### VARIOUS ITEMS.

- CAPTAIN ZUGAUM, of the Twenty-third, has resigned.
- A NEW regiment in Staten Island—perhaps.
- COMPANY D, Sixty-ninth, has elected Captain Plankett.
- LIEUTENANT GEO. J. VALER is elected to Company B, Twenty-third.
- CAPTAIN ELMENDORF, of the Twenty-third, has resigned.
- LIEUTENANT POLYE, of Company C, Fifty-fifth, has resigned. He has set a good example.
- THE Howitzer or Gatling Battery has lost Lieutenant Beebe by resignation.
- THE band concerts of the Twenty-third continue to prosper, snow and ice to the contrary notwithstanding. Contorno's music is sure to draw a full house.
- THE Hazard Powder Company has stepped to the front in the very important matter of funds for the American team in the International Return Match. Vice-President Douglas has sent in to Mr. Alford, of the Subscription Committee, the check of the company for \$250 for the fund. Who comes next?
- THE company championship match is fully settled at last. Company E, First California, replies to Company D, Twelfth New York, with signature to articles of agreement, and a very courteous consent that Captain W. C. Reddy, lately promoted out of Company D, shall shoot in the match. Captain Burns, the California Captain, concludes by saying: "We sincerely hope and trust with you that this novel match, which is a new feature in rifle shooting, will promote military rifle practice." In which hope we heartily join.
- COMPANY A, Seventy-ninth, Captain Addison, will give a grand Scottish concert and entertainment at their armory, 139 and 141 West Twenty-third street, between Sixth and Seventh avenues, on Friday evening, April 2. The programme will include some very beautiful ballad singing, Highland reels and flings in costume, and the always attractive and romantic sword dance. If there be not a great crowd assembled there, we are much mistaken.

—EX-CAPTAIN LOUIS PLOEGER, late of Company C, has been chosen Adjutant of the Fifth to replace Lutz, resigned on account of removal to Philadelphia.

—THE roof of the Twenty-second's armory has caved in at last, and we are glad that no one was hurt. Such a truss ought to subject the architect of the building—if it ever had one—to severe censure; for a heavier, clumsier, and weaker looking truss, with all its waste of timber, we have seldom seen. It is lucky that it did not come down on the heads of the regiment at drill. One more comment on city armories.

—THE Veteran Corps of the Twenty-second Infantry had a family gathering on Friday, March 8, at the Union Square Hotel, where they enjoyed themselves in a way that bore equal testimony to the excellence of the dinner, and the readiness of the Veterans to take their hard task without grumbling. Some forty persons sat down at the table, all of them, with the exception of two, past or present members of the Twenty-second. Dinner over, Walt Whitman's advice, "Let us celebrate ourselves," was acted upon, and the glories and virtues of the Twenty-second were modestly set forth by various speakers, the discussion of other themes somewhat varying the performance. Speeches were made by Colonels Porter, Wingate, Vose and Church, Captains Styles, Horsfall, Tate, Lockwood, Paymaster Jardine, W. C. Rogers, Mr. Pearsall, and by Mr. Catlin, of the *Commercial Advertiser*, who entertained the company with some lively verses. Colonel Congdon presided, and introduced the programme with judicious remarks, besides giving each speaker, as he presented him, a set off with happy sallies of his own.

—THE Twenty-second resumes wing drills at the armory. Right wing, Mondays; left wing, Fridays—in March.

—COMPANY D, Twenty-second, has elected Second Lieutenant Orrin S. Boger.

—COMPANY B, Twenty-seventh, will soon include the best citizens of Mount Vernon. The Twenty-seventh exhibits signs of new vitality, for its officers are beginning to work for recruits, and that was all it needed.

—COMPANIES E and F, of the Second Connecticut, hold a battalion drill next Monday at their armory in New Haven.

—ASSISTANT Adjutant-General Taylor has been in the Adjutant-General's office at Albany since June, 1863, having worked his way up by simple attention to duty, through every grade, to his present position. His appointment is an excellent precedent for the future stability of the staff.

—COLONEL WINGATE is to be appointed State Inspector of Rifle Practice in New York. Seeing that he is the father of rifle practice in the United States, and that the child is remarkably powerful and hard to manage, he is the most proper guardian we know of.

#### MASSACHUSETTS.

**NINTH INFANTRY.**—A correspondent writes us as follows on the old trouble: "Your correspondent of this regiment is somewhat out of his bearings in relation to the arrival of the companies of the left wing of the regiment at Boylston Hall on the evening of inspection, January 25. Although I was late in arriving with my command, I was not the worst in the lot for all that. Now for the truth, and give justice to whom it is due. Your correspondent favors himself and one of his neighbors on the time of their arrival at the hall. He was second and his neighbor last. The true time and arrival of the companies was as follows: Company B, 8:3; Company I, 8:5; Company A, 8:25; Company G, 8:30; Company E, 8:45, which can be proven to everybody's satisfaction. Your question of the lazy captain is worth quarrelling about when accused wrongfully as being such. If your correspondent would keep his timepiece by the sun he would give better satisfaction to all on time than he does when ordered to do so. By inserting this in your paper you will confer a great favor and rectify an uncalled for mistake."

Ed.—We give place to this letter because it is our settled principle to give every man his say. At the same time we must observe that we cannot undertake to settle disputes between companies as to matters of really no interest to any of themselves. It is clear that some one was very late, or very lazy, on the occasion referred to, and our correspondent in his first notice carefully avoided a personal attack on any one. The number of caps that he seems to have fitted to the heads of their wearers in this matter is amazing, and when the officers reflect that all their accurate timing is only matter of individual assertion, and not of official record, they must pardon us for preferring to trust to the accuracy of our correspondent, whose business it is to be careful, rather than to that of a number of company commanders whose minds were taken up with drill, and whose watches differed more or less. Better time, next time, gentlemen. Note.—Our correspondent does not necessarily belong to a rival company or any other regiment, because he finds fault.

**FIRST ARTILLERY.**—Pursuant to orders, Battery B, First Battalion of Light Artillery, assembled at their armory, on Plymouth street, Boston, on Tuesday evening, March 3, for inspection. Owing to the fact that the armory was robbed a few weeks since, a number of uniforms being stolen, the attendance was rather small, four commissioned officers and forty-seven men being in line. Many of the members whose uniforms were taken were present, but were prevented from participating in the inspection on this account. The company was drawn up in line, and upon the arrival of the inspecting officers, who were Major S. A. Bolster, A. I. G., and Captain E. R. Frost, A. D. C., ranks were opened, and sabres presented, but, incorrectly, the officers not making the first motion at the command "Present," but waiting until the order, "Sabres." Upon this being acknowledged by the inspecting officers, ranks were closed, and the company wheeled to the right by platoons, halting and dressing. This movement would look much better if the officers would keep their hands off the guides. The company then marched in review—the wheelings being poor, distances uneven, and alignments bad. The step was much too fast; one officer did not salute at all, and another only when opposite the reviewing officers. The review being finished, inspection of arms and uniforms took place. The uniforms were found in good condition, but the sabres could not be considered more than fairly clean. The appearance of the men was excellent, and the discipline all that could be desired. The men were next drilled at the guns, the movements executed embracing loading and firing, detachments front and rear, changing of posts, changes of fronts, etc. These movements were decent in the first and second detachments, but not perfect, many of the men not being up in their parts; several gunners giving commands differently, and the alignment of detachments being incorrect, the left detachment not dressing upon the right. The drill of the last two detachments was very poor, the men being evidently not instructed in their duties. Changes of front were so blunderingly executed that in actual service they would have endangered the detachments of several pieces by the fire of others. On the whole, Battery B is not well drilled, but we hope to see a better exhibition next time.

**CHANGES.**—The following are the changes registered at the Adjutant-General's Office for the week ending Saturday, March 6, 1875:

**Conditional Commissions.**—Fifth regiment, Company E, First Lieutenant, Jophannus H. Whitney; Second Lieutenant, Chas. M. Green.

**Full Commissions.**—First regiment, Company D, Captain Wm. A. Smith; Sixth regiment, Company A, Second Lieutenant Samuel H. Mitchell; Sixth regiment, Company K, First Lieutenant Joseph Melsop; Ninth regiment, Company A, First Lieutenant Thomas McDonough; Tenth regiment, Colonel Jas. M. Drennan; First Battalion of Cavalry, Company D, Captain Aaron A. Hall, First Lieutenant John Newcomb, Second Lieutenant Wm. B. Fenner.

**Resigned and Discharged.**—Second regiment, Company A, Captain Withey; Company H, Captain Babcock; Ninth regiment, Company G, Lieutenant Crowley.

**EIGHTH INFANTRY.**—The new uniform of this regiment is as follows: Dark blue dress coat with three rows of buttons, skirts trimmed with buff with scarlet edging, stripes of buff, scarlet, and gold on sleeves, stripes of scarlet and gold on collar, with gold band on top of same. Dark blue trousers, bearing buff stripes, with scarlet edging. Epaulettes, brass bound, with buff top and crescent, scarlet cord above and below crescent, and white fringe; hat of helmet pattern.

**FIFTH INFANTRY.**—At a meeting of officers held March 13, to

all the vacancy caused by the resignation of Colonel Everett, Lieutenant-Colonel E. J. Trull was elected Colonel; Major C. F. King, Lieutenant-Colonel, and Adjutant B. F. Stoddard, Major.

**NINTH INFANTRY.**—The right wing of this regiment, comprising Companies C, D, F, H, and K, holds a battalion drill on Thursday evening, March 13, at Boylston Hall, under command of Lieutenant-Colonel Strachan. The drill of the left wing, comprising Companies A, B, E, G, and I, under command of Major Logan, took place on Thursday evening, the 11th inst. This drill will be noticed next week.

**FIRST CAVALRY.**—The inspection of this battalion has been ordered for Thursday evening, March 13. Place to be decided upon by the battalion commander.

**FOURTH BATTALION.**—It is probable that this battalion will be inspected on Friday evening, March 20, but orders to that effect have not yet been issued.

#### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

**JOHN, Camp Supply, February 27, 1875,** asks as follows: 1. Can an enlisted man, who is a civil engineer by profession, be transferred from the Infantry to the Engineer Corps? 2. What steps must be taken to obtain a transfer? My reason for these questions is that I am only fourteen months in this country, thirteen of which I am in the Army, and as I love my former profession, I think I could do more creditable service in the Engineer Corps than in my present station, and the same would be also more agreeable to me. **ANSWER.** 1. We see no reason to prevent the transfer as a matter of favor. 2. Apply through the regular channel in writing, and the probability is you will get through. Take the same course as in asking for any other favor, through the commander and so on up to headquarters.

**S. VINCENT BUTLER.**—Your brother having enlisted in the Navy, and died while in the service, leaving neither wife, child, nor father, his mother would be entitled to a pension if she was dependent to any degree upon him for her support.

**SAM TANNER, March 6,** writes for the benefit of a poor widow who has lost her son in the late war. Her son joined the Twenty-third Kentucky regiment in 1861; re-enlisted in 1864, and has not turned up since the war closed. His mother received her last letter from him April 24, 1865. Please state how she can find out whether he died before he got mustered out of service, and how she can establish her claim for pension, as she is poor and has no friends, and oblige one of the captors of the Rebel ram *Atlanta*.

**ANSWER.**—Similar letters to the above are constantly reaching us, and the course to be taken is the same in all. Write to the Adjutant-General of the State to which the deceased soldier belonged. Give his name, company, and regiment, and ask for his descriptive list and military history. If he died in the service, of wounds or disease therein contracted, his mother is entitled to a pension, if he was her sole support, and left neither widow nor child. The formalities for obtaining a pension are many and tedious, so much so that a class of men have arisen who do little else but attend to them for claimants, for a consideration. If the applicant desires fuller information, a written application to the Commissioner of Pensions would, no doubt, bring a copy of the instructions, but the claim agents monopolize most of the business. Look in the *JOURNAL* or Washington papers for advertisements of agents.

#### FOREIGN ITEMS.

**BOTH** the British Admiralty and War Department have made provision in the forthcoming Navy Estimates not only for completing the torpedo experiments already commenced, but for carrying on others on a more extensive scale.

**THE** Naval and Finance Committees of the German State Council have moved for a special commission to inquire into the expediency of a new Arctic expedition. The inquiry is likely to result in Government assisting the Bremen scheme.

**QUEEN VICTORIA** has received the war club of King Thakomban, which was in former times the symbol of sovereignty in the Fiji Islands; and which has now been presented to Her Majesty by the king in token of his dutiful allegiance.

**IT** is now definitely settled by the fixture of the Grand Master nominate that the installation of his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales shall take place on Wednesday, April 28. The ceremony will take place at the Albert Hall by favor of the council, and as in all probability upwards of 7,000 masons will be present the scene will be one of extraordinary splendor and significance.

**THE** following notification from the London Horse Guards has recently been made: "His Royal Highness the Field-Marshal Commanding-in-Chief having remarked that officers frequently fail to comply with the regulations concerning the growth of hair and beards, the attention of all officers is particularly called to the paragraph in the Queen's Regulations (sec. 6, par. 3C) on this subject, especially to the order therein laid down that the under-lip is to be shaven as well as the chin."

**THE** London *United Service Gazette* refers to the fact of a decoration of Companion of the Order of the Bath having been tendered by the Queen to Lieutenant-Commander Frederick Pearson, U. S. Navy, and says: "Although the nomination to the Companionship of the Bath is withheld from English naval officers of the rank of Lieutenant-commander, it is bestowed—and very properly so—on those of other navies."

**MR. J. K. LAUGHTON, R. N., M. A.,** of the Royal Naval College, lately read a paper, in London, on "Scientific Instruction in the Royal Navy," in which he deprecated the system of "cramming." What was wanted was scientific training combined with practical knowledge, and he considered more attention should be paid to mathematics than was given at present. Such training should be given to midshipmen before they joined their ships as would relieve them of much of the mere school duty they had now to undergo on board. He then proceeded to describe at length the work of the Naval College at Greenwich, and said that much was done there to teach surveying and chart-making, but of course good chart-makers could only be produced by long and constant actual practice. He thought that naval history might be taught with advantage to young naval officers, and that a knowledge of foreign languages ought to be thoroughly cultivated. A short discussion followed, in which it was suggested that teachers of foreign languages might be provided for midshipmen at Malta, and at some of the stations at



which her Majesty's ships-of-war made lengthened stays.

THE *Pall Mall Gazette* has the following: "The War Office has within the last few days received a memorandum voluntarily delivered to the Secretary of State by a British officer of high rank, representing the present condition of the army as intolerably bad, and Lord Cardwell's system of short service as a hopeless failure under existing circumstances. The main grounds for this assertion are statistics carefully drawn from the returns to show that the deaths, discharges, and above all the desertions, will, at their present rates, equal in six years the average number of recruits enlisted, and that therefore any hope of founding on this system a permanent reserve is and must be an utter delusion. It is pointed out, moreover, that, although the total numbers of enlistments are kept up by the supineness with which undergrown boys and worthless characters are accepted, the Guards are 400 under their strength and the Royal Artillery 2,000, owing doubtless to their fixing a reasonable standard before accepting recruits. Under these circumstances, the writer points out, the army must at present be looked on as simply a police force for home use and nothing more. All this may be gleaned, with appropriate comments on the facts, from the letters of German correspondents dating from London to journals in their own country; but we are able to correct their reports in one important particular, and to state that the writer of this startling paper is not, as they suppose, the commander-in-chief. It is understood to proceed from the pen of a well-known general officer distinguished both for military service and for scientific knowledge."

ORDERS have been received at Chatham from the English Admiralty, directing that in future all acting carpenters shall be required to pass a final examination, before a board of dockyard officers, in the following subjects before they receive their confirmation: Knowledge of how wood, iron, and steel masts and yards are constructed, how to fish masts and yards of wood, steel, or iron, in a ready and efficient manner; ability to calculate in proper proportions for making masts and yards from rough spars; ability to describe the manner in which the two thicknesses of sheathing on composite or iron-sheathed ships are secured to the frames or plating; and the manner in which a wood deck is secured to iron beams, stringer-plates, or iron deck; knowledge of how the keel, stem, stern-post, and rudders of iron ships are formed, and how the stem and stern-posts are secured to the keel; how the stern-tube is formed; how the bulkheads are secured to the ship's side, and how they are stiffened; how water-tight doors and sluice-valves are formed and worked; how iron beams are secured to the ship's side; ability to describe the transverse and longitudinal framing of a ship, and the formation of a double bottom; ability to show how iron plates are united to one another and to the iron frames; to describe the method of securing the armor to the ship, and to describe the pumping arrangements on ships, and the ventilating arrangements.

THE Austrian Service journal *Velette* gives the following details of the ironclad *Custoza*, the largest vessel in the Austro-Hungarian Imperial navy. The *Custoza* was begun in 1869, from the designs of the late Vice-Admiral von Tegethof and K.K. Schiffsbau-Inspector von Romako. She is built on the "casemated bow-battery system," to use her ram and gun-power in combination whenever needed. For this purpose she carries four 12-inch 600-pounder guns on each deck forward, in iron casemates. The guns are placed on turn-tables, and the two foremost on either deck can be used either as bow or broad-side guns. Her length at the water-line is 394 1-2 feet, her breadth amidships is 54 1-4 feet, her draught of water 21 1-2 feet forward and 25 3-4 feet abaft. She is built of iron on the cellular plan, and her armor-plates at 8 2-3 inches thick at the water-line, over a wooden sheathing 9 to 11 inches in thickness. The armor extends 4 2-3 feet below the water-line. All these dimensions are given in Vienna measure—the Vienna foot and inch being about one-tenth longer than the English. Her displacement is 7000 tons, in which respect the Austrian casemated ironclads *Erzherzog Albrecht* and *Lissa* approach nearest to her, each with 6000 tons displacement. Her engines are of 1000 nominal horse-power, and occupy a length of 112 English feet. Her cylinder is 110 inches in diameter. Her boilers are eight in number, each 15 feet long, 13 1-2 feet high, and 13 feet broad. Her propeller is on Griffith's principle, with two blades, and a diameter of 23 1-2 feet. Her speed is reckoned at 13 to 14 (Austrian) miles. The *Velette* is loud in praise of the excellence and finish of the arrangements in the portions of the vessel where the officers are berthed, and above all of the beauty of the State cabins, where the accommodation is described as "palatial."

A LETTER from St. Petersburg in the *Hamburg Correspondent* says that the endeavors of the government to consolidate its friendly relations with Germany and Austria are accompanied by a bitter feeling of hostility towards England, which, though to a certain extent suppressed, is continually manifesting itself. Although every effort is being made to preserve the domestic relations entered into between the English and Russian Courts, the Russians

cannot but see that the gulf which has been opened between the two nations by their rivalry for dominion in Asia is gradually widening. The conduct of England in the Podgoritz affair has been unanimously condemned in the Russian press, and her refusal to attend the Conference on the usage of war has produced an even more unfavorable impression. "All the world knows," observes the correspondent, "that the plan of the conference arose from the personal initiative of the Emperor, and that he attaches the highest importance to it. The withdrawal of the British Cabinet is therefore regarded not only as showing a difference of opinion between the two governments, but also as an act of unfriendliness towards the Emperor. The decision of the British government excited the more astonishment here as the British plenipotentiary had ultimately been induced to sign the Brussels protocol, and as it was expected that the favor with which the new Russian ambassador, Count Schouvaloff, is received by the royal family would exercise some influence on the decisions of Mr. Disraeli and Lord Derby. It is probably not without reason that the Russian Foreign Office fears that the example of England may have some effect on the attitude of the second-class Powers, and deter them from taking part in the Conference, thus defeating the Emperor's favorite project just at the moment when it was about to be realized."

THE proposal to establish a Russian fort on the Attrek, with defences "unusually extensive," was recently noticed by the London *Times* correspondent at Berlin. The *Pall Mall Gazette* observes: "A glance at the map will show that the point in question, situated as it is near the south-east corner of the Caspian and immediately on the frontier of Persia, is one of great strategical importance to a Power which may at some future date find it convenient to threaten India. Of the two routes which could be used by Russia one presents many difficulties, the other scarcely one. The former is by the Oxus. Along this route a river, navigable for only a comparatively short distance, arid, sandy wastes, and, finally, a mountain barrier, are formidable difficulties in the path of an invading army, however well organized. The latter is by the valley of the Attrek, and thence through a level and perfectly practicable country to Herat, the garden of Central Asia. Two years ago, in the published correspondence with Russia respecting Central Asia, Lord Granville discussed with Prince Gortschakoff nice questions of the geography of Vakhán and Badakshan, countries which lie contiguous to the Oxus, or Russia's eastern possible line of advance. Wherever England chose to fix the frontier line of those unknown countries mattered not, for obvious reasons to Russia. She conceded her views to our wishes, and the Foreign Office had the satisfaction of defining the so-called "intermediary zone." So deeply interested were Lord Granville and his advisers in Vakhán and Badakshan that, of course, it was not to be expected that they could allow themselves to be disturbed about the valley of the Attrek, which rumor said had then just been ceded by Persia to Russia. And as no understanding was come to on this point, Russia can now do as she likes along the only line, the western, that will be of service to her should she ever hereafter harbor designs on India. The site of the proposed fort is about twenty-five miles from the mouth of the Attrek, to which the Caspian offers an easy water-way of some 600 miles."

ADMIRAL RICHARDS, R.N., lately read a paper in London on the route towards the North Pole for the Arctic Expedition of 1875. He said that no exploring expedition had been sent northwards from England for upwards of thirty years, nor had any serious attempt been ever made to reach the Pole. Parry had, of course, in his time done all he could, with the limited appliances and means which existed in those days, but the unhappy fate of Franklin had disheartened the nation. He then briefly alluded to the famous search for Franklin, than which, in his opinion, no expedition had ever been more faithfully carried out, and the success of which was mainly due to the discovery made in that memorable journey of Dr. Rae. The route now proposed was the channel leading north from the head of Baffin's Bay to the southern extreme, known as Smith's Sound, and discovered by Baffin in 1616, from which year it would appear to have remained unvisited till Ross sailed there two centuries later. The longitude of this Sound mattered but little; what did matter was that it was a navigable channel for ships and the route now proposed to be followed. The vessels that were to take this route had been made as strong as wood and iron could make them, and had been fitted as no such vessels had ever before been fitted in England. The crew would be about 60 officers and men, and would be provisioned for a period of at least three years. Each ship would carry three icemen and a skilled naturalist, while all instruments and appliances of investigation of every branch of science would also be provided. Arrangements had been made to ship about 60 dogs at Greenland for the sledges. It was intended at present that the two vessels should leave Portsmouth about the latter end of May, and taking the usual route to Baffin's Bay, so endeavor to pass up Smith's Sound. In 81 or 82 degrees north latitude they would probably separate, and while one would stay exploring the northern

coast of Greenland, the other would push still further northwards. Everything, the speaker was of opinion, had been done to insure success. In the course of a few remarks on the probable nature of the sea beyond 82 deg. latitude, he stated that from the violent current which swept southwards from Smith's Sound and through Hudson's Strait, along the coast of Labrador, he inferred that there was no great continent north of Smith's Sound.

THE Russian organ in Brussels, the *Nord*, in a late issue publishes an article referring to Lord Derby's despatch to Lord A. Loftus, announcing England's refusal to attend the forthcoming Conference at St. Petersburg on the usages of war. The motives assigned for the refusal are, the *Nord* says, suggestive of that hypocrisy which is so prominent a feature in British policy. Generous principle is invoked simply to color the powerlessness which is felt in regard to Continental war. The object sought is the immunity of war carried on at sea. Lord Derby has not the excuse of ignorance, as some journals pretend. The *Nord* goes on to speak of the English Foreign Minister as a philanthropist of the Pecksniffian school, and says that England attended the Conference at Brussels only to prevent the discussion of maritime questions. That purpose attained, she withdraws. The *Nord* promises, at the proper time, to show how these tactics may be turned against England. The *Cologne Gazette*, referring to the refusal of the British Government to participate in the St. Petersburg Conference, observes that England has thereby placed herself at the head of the second-rate Powers, which look with mistrust on the Russian proposal. No one would wish to deny that England is free to decide whether she will give her concurrence to the ultimate results of the conference or not, but her refusal to participate in it shows she is ill-disposed towards it. It cannot be said that England's conduct is entirely devoid of fear; and, moreover she seems to be secretly anxious lest naval warfare, which at the first conference was expressly excluded from the deliberations, should on this occasion be included among the subjects of discussion, and be regulated in a manner which might be disagreeable to a Power that formerly ruled the seas.

THE *Allgemeine Zeitung* gives an account of the present strength and prospects of the German fleet. There are three iron-clad frigates—the *König Wilhelm*, the *Kronprinz*, and *Friedrich Karl*, and four others—the *Friedrich der Grosse*, *Preussen*, *Kaiser*, and *Deutschland*—will be completed this year and the *Grosse Kurfürst* in 1876. The *Kaiser* and *Deutschland* are superior in dimensions, speed, equipment, and power of resistance to any Russian vessel, are only equalled by the English *Sultan*, *Hercules*, and *Monarch*, and the French *Frieland*, *Marengo*, and *Souverain*, and are superior to the English *Superb* and *Temeraire* and the French *Redoubtable*, which are being constructed. In time of war they will be battle ships, while during peace they will be sent on any mission for which a small ship is not sufficient. Next come the iron-clad corvettes. Of these, the *Hansa*, destined for foreign service, will be completed this spring, while two others will probably not be ready till the end of next year. They are destined for offensive coast defence, and will be stationed in the waters near the German coast. They are only surpassed by the much larger English *Inflexible*, which is of much greater draught. Three others are to be built, but the time for beginning them is not yet fixed. There are two monitors—the *Arminius* and the *Prinz Adalbert*—three gunboats, and two Rhine monitors. These last are designed to defend the river and its fortresses between Mayence and Wesel. The three iron-clad gunboats, which will be of light draught and easily manoeuvred, will be employed on the coast and in shallow waters. The two Rhine monitors are stationed in time of peace at Coblenz, and have each 60 sailors and six officers. They cannot go higher up the river than Mayence. Like the rest of the navy, they will practice evolutions in the course of next summer. Among the unarmed vessels will be 20 corvettes, ten of which are already in use; another, the *Louise*, is just finished, and the *Freyja* will be ready next autumn. These two are on the model of the Confederate ship *Alabama*. By the end of next year the *Thunelida* and the *Hermann* will be added, these being three times as strong as the *Alabama*, and four faster. Corvettes will be begun this year. These latter will have an iron hull covered with wood, the wood being coated with plates of copper and zinc. These corvettes will cruise in distant seas wherever German commerce requires protection. There are two despatch-boats in service and two others will be begun this year, one of them being an aerial yacht of great speed and luxuriously fitted up. Two more are intended to be built. There are 18 gunboats serving for coast defence, and also stationed at a few important foreign stations, such as Constantinople, the mouth of the Danube, and the West Indies. There will be two gunnery ships, one of which has yet to be built, for instructing the crews in the management of heavy guns of every calibre. They can be employed as batteries, as was the case in 1870 with the *Renown* at Kiel. There are three sailing brigs for training boys as sailors, and there will be 28 torpedo-boats. Only six of these are built, and two will be constructed this year. When the projected vessels are all completed, the German navy